

FBIS

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ORIGINAL

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ARTIFICIAL DELAYS ON SALT CAN BE 'EXPENSIVE'

LD261015Y Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA in Russian No 30, 21 Jul 78 p 16 LD

[VL. Kuznetsov article: "The Difficult Path to the Finale"]

[Text] The 2-day talks between USSR Foreign Minister A.A. Gromyko and U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance ended 13 July in Geneva. The main attention was paid to the questions of preparing the new agreement on the limitation of strategic offensive armaments (SALT). The exchange of opinions was useful and provided the basis for further rapprochement between the sides' positions on the outstanding issues, discussion of which will be continued. This is the assessment made by the two sides of the results of the Geneva talks.

The restraint of the assessment evidently testifies that both considerable work and significant difficulties still lie ahead. This should not be surprising if one remembers that a broad campaign--not just a propaganda campaign--has been mounted in the United States in the last few months with the aim of curtailing or ending the SALT talks. Unfortunately, this campaign has also affected Washington's official position. There have even been reports that it intends to "freeze" the talks. True, both President James Carter and other officials representing Washington's position on SALT--Cyrus Vance and Paul Warnke, head of the U.S. delegation at the Geneva talks--have energetically disputed the "freeze" story. They have given assurances that they have no intention of making the fate of SALT dependent on other problems and events.

"I believe that the SALT agreement," the President declared, "is of such great importance for our country and for the security of the entire world that we must not allow anything to prevent us from concluding an agreement." But the obstacles remain. As yet there does not seem to be a desire to guard against [zastрахovatsya ot] them. Although, according to Paul Warnke, "literally a handful of questions remains to be settled," it is precisely at this crucial moment that some people would like to place a rock in the American hand. Washington POST commentator J. Kraft does not rule out the possibility that the agreement "may be swept away by a wave of anti-Soviet hysteria." His colleague J. Wieghart of the New York DAILY NEWS warns of the responsibility that would fall on those who allowed this. Since the SALT talks "are a symbol of detente, the failure of the talks would be seen throughout the world as a death sentence for detente and a return to the cold war."

Let us hope that matters do not reach this point and that no one in Washington will dare to assume such a heavy burden of responsibility.

However, the talks are being dragged out unjustifiably. It is said that they should not be accelerated: Congressional elections are coming up in November. It looks like some people have forgotten the regrettable experience of 1976, when the G. Ford-H. Kissinger administration sacrificed the completion of the SALT talks to the presidential campaign. The former U.S. leaders later regretted this and, as R. Burt reasonably recalls in the New York TIMES, "it took almost a year to get the talks back on track."

Artificial delays are expensive for those who resort to them.

It is appropriate to recall that the parties to the 1974 Vladivostok accord felt it was realistic to complete the preparation of the agreement the next year. However, even in 1978 some people in Washington are still debating "how to negotiate with the Russians." As though empty logomachies help matters....

U.S. DISREGARD FOR DISARMAMENT SESSION CAUSES CONCERN

LD261037Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Jul 78 p 5 LD

[Ye. Rusakov report: "Political Jugglers"]

[Text] New York--The Washington administration's position at the UN General Assembly [UNGA] special session on disarmament continues to be discussed in the U.S. press. And this is natural. Essentially the topic of discussion is the question of the direction in which the present Washington "team" intends to travel: Will it embark on the path of saber-rattling and the stockpiling of weapons, or will it engage in the quest for measures to curb the arms race and reduce the threat of nuclear war, which would accord with the true national interests of the United States and the interests of peace throughout the world?

In an article entitled "No, No Farewell to Arms!" The journal SEVEN DAYS writes: "Vice President Mondale ignored the eminent representatives who gathered for the special session, attacked the policy of the Soviet Union and Cuba in Africa, praised NATO and stated his concern over growing Soviet might in Eastern Europe, all aimed at the U.S. 'backwoods.' Disarmament was mentioned almost in passing, which is extremely strange if you consider President J. Carter's frequent statements that the successful completion of the Soviet-U.S. strategic offensive arms limitation talks is very important to the administration.

"President Carter demonstrated his disregard for the UNGA special session on disarmament by refusing to appear at it. His representative, Vice President W. Mondale, delivered a speech which was a mere reiteration of U.S. State Department stock phrases."

"I feel that the White House has betrayed me,"--this was said by California businessman H. Willens, a member of the U.S. delegation at the UNGA special session on disarmament. "I feel personally betrayed because at all the talks I was assured of the great importance of the disarmament session," H. Willens said in an interview with U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT. "We were all told how highly our participation in this historic event was rated. And if that was so then far more should have been done than was done. I am upset by the lost opportunity to raise the awareness of the entire world--and especially the United States--to the looming threat that the situation could get out of control.... The U.S. President's refusal to speak at the special session made a negative impression on the entire world."

Laying the blame for the administration's unconstructive position on the President's advisers, H. Willens was critical of attempts to prove that displays of "toughness" and a "position of strength" policy will further the signing of a Soviet-U.S. agreement on strategic offensive arms limitation and its ratification in the U.S. Senate.

U.S. press commentaries show that the political juggling by high-ranking Washington officials on fundamental issues of war and peace is causing growing concern in the United States.

SHARKOV: 'GOOD BASIS' FOR FIRST-STAGE MBFR REDUCTION

LD261557Y Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 19 Jul 78 p 3 LD

[Yu. Sharkov article: "Detente: The Ball Is in the West's Court"]

[Text] When he was U.S. defense secretary, J. Schlesinger once said candidly: "It cannot be ruled out that NATO might be the first to use nuclear weapons in a theater of hostilities." When Schlesinger left this post, his concept was not consigned to the archives--people continue to be guided by it to this day.

The fact that such dangerous and antihuman doctrines are in current use generates a feeling of misgiving even in the West. Britain's Lord Chalfont declared recently, and not without sarcasm: "If our political leaders are seriously thinking of using nuclear weapons in the event of a war in Europe and we allow them to do so, then all that is left for us to do is to wait calmly for the men in white coats to arrive, because we are the ones who are crazy and not the inmates of the mental hospitals."

Quite recently there was some tough bargaining between Washington and the West European capitals over the emplacement of neutron weapons in Europe. Before embarking on the weapon's production the United States wanted to obtain a guarantee from its NATO allies that it would be deployed in Europe. Here the U.S. administration set itself the objective of so arranging matters that the initiative for the weapons deployment would come from the West European countries themselves. That way Washington would avoid gaining a reputation as a defender of a new arms race as was the case when it unleashed first atomic and then thermonuclear competition. Moreover, the United States would appear as a country that was simply sharing its nuclear novelties with its allies.

However, from the very outset U.S. diplomacy encountered a dogged reluctance of the part of the West European countries to take responsibility for a new exhausting round of the arms race. It tried all ways to apply political and military pressure on its allies, but the most that it achieved was their agreement to examine the question of the deployment of neutron weapons on European territory in 18-24 months' time. This stance by the West European governments was attributable not to intransigence and obstinancy but to the fact that they could not ignore the broad antineutron movement in their own countries.

There was nothing President Carter could do but to temporarily postpone production of neutron weapons. U.S. newspapers wrote that when this decision was made, misgivings were voiced that the decision to equip the U.S. Army with neutron weapons would make the U.S. position at the UN General Assembly special session vulnerable and would incur criticism from many countries. Along this line the arguments expressed to him by A. Young, the U.S. permanent representative at the United Nations, impressed Carter.

Just recently there have been attempts in the United States to resurrect the neutron bomb plans and breathe new life into them. As recently as 16 June this year, the U.S. House of Representatives came out, by a majority of votes, in favor of producing this inhuman weapon of mass destruction. The Senate Armed Services Committee sanctioned the allocation of funds for fitting Lance missiles and 8-inch artillery shells with neutron warheads. And it clearly demanded that the government create stocks of "neutron warhead components" in the United States for "their rapid delivery to Western Europe."

Under these conditions it is extremely important to achieve international understanding on the mutual renunciation of the neutron weapon production, which is what the Soviet Union is proposing.

In the nuclear sphere there is another question on which attention has long been riveted. This is the need for the prohibition of nuclear tests in all environments, including underground. Talks on this question are in progress in Geneva between the Soviet Union, the United States and Britain. By agreeing to conduct checks on a voluntary basis and by proposing a moratorium on peaceful nuclear explosions the USSR has helped to ease the deadlock over the most difficult questions. If the matter is carried through to conclusion and an appropriate treaty signed, this will place obstacles in the way of the further improvement of nuclear weapons and will be a definite step forward in solving the nuclear problem. And finally, reduction of the high concentrations of troops and weapons in Europe is also one of the most important problems waiting to be solved. The Vienna talks on the mutual reduction of armed forces and armaments in central Europe are designed to serve the attainment of this goal.

After a prolonged delay caused by the unconstructive line of the Western states, certain signs of rapprochement in the two sides' positions have begun to appear at the talks. On 19 April the Western countries submitted revamped proposals signifying a step forward, albeit a small one. They consider the valid demand of the Warsaw Pact countries that an agreement on the first stage of reductions covering only the U.S. and USSR armed forces should provide for commitments by the other participants in the talks to reduce their troops during the second stage.

At the same time it is also impossible not to perceive the stamp of a one-sided approach in the West's new proposals. First, the NATO countries are declaring their readiness to reduce troops only within the framework of the collective level of armed forces of the North Atlantic bloc. The possibility would then exist for increasing the armed forces of certain states through reduction, carried out for economic or other motives, by other NATO members. At the same time the Soviet military grouping stationed in the reductions zone must, according to the Western scheme, be limited by an individual ceiling. Second, in accordance with the Western proposals, the USSR troops must be withdrawn in whole formations at a time, while those of the United States are to be withdrawn only in units, subunits, or even individual servicemen taken on a selective basis from various units.

Seeking to impart a constructive nature to the talks, the socialist countries put forward new proposals on 8 June this year taking into account a number of provisions of the Western countries' position. The possibility of establishing collective ceilings for the Warsaw Pact and NATO armed forces at 900,000 men each is envisaged. However, this must not lead to a situation where one of the participants, hiding behind the backs of the others, might avoid reductions. The socialist countries have favored reduction of the Soviet and U.S. armies during the first stage by an equal percentage proportional to their numerical strength in central Europe. The USSR is prepared to withdraw in the course of a year three divisions with their corresponding equipment, including 1,000 tanks. Finally the Warsaw Pact states have agreed to limit reduction of the numerical strength of armed forces to ground forces and to carry out a selective reduction of those types of armaments cited by the Western side.

The NATO countries have assessed the socialist states' new proposals as "an extremely significant stage." Western correspondents were told this at the Evere headquarters by the head of NATO's information department after the latest session of the bloc's council at the level of permanent representatives. In the London TIMES' opinion, the socialist countries' initiative could promote the creation of "favorable grounds for reaching an agreement on the first stage of a reduction." The new step by the Warsaw Pact countries, declared A. Pawelczyk, a spokesman for the Social Democratic Party of Germany, has convinced even skeptics that the Warsaw Pact countries are seriously interested in achieving progress at the talks.

An analysis of the state of affairs at the talks makes it possible to conclude that the new proposals of the socialist and Western countries essentially eliminate those chief obstacles which have so far stood in the way of concluding an agreement. A good basis has been created for an agreement on the first stage of a reduction. Further progress at the talks now depends on the Western countries and on their political will.

At the same time it must be admitted that it is far from easy to implement the opportunities which are being revealed. In this connection international commentators are drawing attention to Washington's tactic, which is calculated to insure that the Vienna talks do not forestall the Soviet-U.S. dialog on strategic arms limitation. Taking into account the fact that the U.S. administration has adopted a course toward dragging out the talks with the USSR, it could also retard the talks on the mutual reduction of armed forces and armaments in central Europe.

The problem of European military detente is complex and multifaceted. It affects a number of important aspects of states. It is also necessary to come to terms with the opposition by the enemies of peace and above all the henchmen of the military-industrial complexes. However, despite all this, there are real preconditions in Europe for furthering the cause of military detente. As L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, noted when speaking in Minsk, it is Europe which can in practice show how we must coexist, cooperate and work together.

YUGOSLAV DELEGATE CHOSEN AS NONALIGNED CONFERENCE CHAIRMAN

LD261056Y Moscow TASS in English 0942 GMT 26 Jul 78 LD

[Text] Belgrade, July 26, TASS--At their evening session on Tuesday, held behind closed doors, the foreign ministers of the non-aligned countries approved the recommendation of the Preparatory Committee on the election of Federal Secretary for Foreign Affairs of Yugoslavia Josip Vorohovec as chairman of the conference. They elected as vice chairmen of the conference the heads of the delegations of Ghana, Switzerland, Tanzania and Tunisia (from Africa), Iraq, Malaysia and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (from Asia), Cuba and Panama (from Latin America) and Cyprus (from Europe).

On Tuesday evening, the participants in the conference started a debate on the draft agenda drawn up by the Preparatory Committee.

As newsmen were told on Tuesday by 'Abd Al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, a member of the delegation of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, representatives of Syria, Libya, Algeria, PLO and South Yemen intend to hold a meeting to examine issues in connection with the Middle East situation and the Palestinian problem.

Struggle With Imperialism

LD262124Y Moscow in Arabic to North Africa 1830 GMT 26 Jul 78 LD

[Aleksey Zlatorunskiy commentary]

[Summary] The conference of the nonaligned foreign ministers continues its work in Belgrade. More than 100 delegations are taking part. The agenda has been approved and covers 17 points, which include important international matters such as disarmament, the establishment of a new and more just international economic order, and the situations in the Middle East and Africa. President Tito confirmed in a speech at the conference that the main task of the nonaligned countries is the struggle against imperialism, racism and neocolonialism. Since the last nonaligned conference 2 years ago, important changes have taken place. The most important change is the success of the policy aimed at deepening international relaxation. This policy continuously pursued by the socialist countries and the majority of the nonaligned countries with the support of all progressive forces in the world.

"Nevertheless, it must be concluded that the movement towards relaxation is encountering increasingly ferocious resistance from imperialism and reaction. Lately, those forces have greatly increased their sabotage activities, and this is clearly evident in Africa and the Middle East. Due to the direct participation of these forces, new hotbeds of tension, such as the Somali-Ethiopian conflict and the explosive situation in the Western Sahara have emerged in Africa. These forces supported the attempts to overthrow the popular regimes in Angola and the PDRY and organized the collective intervention in the Zaire's Shaba Province. The efforts of the imperialist and reactionary forces have prevented the solution of an acute problem: eliminating Israeli aggression against Arab countries, granting the Palestinians their legitimate right to establish an independent state, and, consequently the establishment of a just and lasting peace in the Middle East.

"The United States and its European allies conduct sabotage activities to consolidate imperialist positions in developing countries and to halt their progressive social and economic development. They pay special attention to the nonaligned countries, noting that the nonaligned nations constitute a substantial political force, and make many efforts to rid the nonaligned movement of its anti-imperialist content.

"The CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR said before the conference of the nonaligned foreign ministers that even the conservative regimes among the nonaligned nations are clearly dismayed by Western attempts to use them to split the movement and settle accounts with the traditional enemy of U.S. imperialism--revolutionary Cuba."

Nevertheless, some nonaligned countries are still willing to follow Western policy. At the initiative of Egypt and Saudi Arabia, for instance, the Arab League adopted a resolution boycotting the PDRY. Finally Cairo's role in recent Middle East events is well known: By capitulating to the enemy, Egypt has become a tool for U.S. policy in this region. The nonaligned movement has proved over a period of 16 years that it is capable of removing the obstacles placed in its way by imperialism.

WESTERN ECONOMIC CRISIS UNRESOLVED BY BONN CONFERENCE

LD222138Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1514 GMT 22 July 78 LD

["Joyless Results of the Conference in Bonn"--TASS Headline]

[Text] Moscow, July 22--The results of the Bonn conference of the heads of state and governments of the United States, Japan, FRG, France, Great Britain, Canada and Italy, and the declaration adopted by the conference have caused a wave of pessimism in the bourgeois press, IZVESTIYA notes.

The Washington POST writes that a slight shift in the center of Western economic power from the United States to West Germany and Japan, occurred at the Bonn meeting. The paper notes that for the first time since World War II, the Germans and Japanese demonstrated their power and blamed the United States for international economic problems. The U.S. federal budget deficit amounts to a huge sum in the fiscal year 1978: \$53 billion.

Last year, the U.S. accumulated a foreign trade deficit of \$27 billion, and it has grown in the first months of this year.

"This dry, but very expressive figure also explains the shift of economic power in the Western world."

The debates and disagreements that appeared during the Bonn conference prompted FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE to write that the "seven heads of state and government have not solved a single conflict that existed when they arrived in Bonn."

The affair does not end in disagreement within the "seven." The results of the meeting have been warily received in other capitalist countries, especially the small states that fear, with reason, that there will be an attempt to place the burden of the economic crisis on them.

"The disasters entailed by the economic mess will, first of all, affect the working masses of the capitalist countries, where 17 million are unemployed and prices for food and essential goods climb 7-17 percent every year." Inflation, unemployment, currency instability, economic decline: all this was discussed at the Bonn conference. But it is impossible to eliminate these ills by declarations since they are the fundamental characteristics of the capitalist way of life.

SOVIET SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION WITH WEST REVIEWED

LD261820Y Moscow TASS in English 1812 GMT 26 Jul 78 LD

Text] Moscow, July 26, TASS--Mutually advantageous scientific-technical relations of the Soviet Union with the industrially advanced capitalist states are acquiring an ever more solid foundation, the Moscow weekly EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA (ECONOMIC GAZETTE) writes today. In 1977 they were based on almost 60 intergovernment agreements, which were furthered and supplemented by about 250 agreements with scientific institutions and firms. As a rule, these relations are of a long-term character.

Scientific-technical cooperation with France, for instance, covers approximately thirty spheres of science, technology and industry. Of great importance is cooperation of Soviet and French scientists in the sphere of heavy and transport machine-building. Early last year, the official commissioning of Europe's largest hydraulic press with a force of 65,000 tons, assembled with the assistance of Soviet specialists and with the use of Soviet equipment and technology, took place in the French town of Isocire. A navigation and piloting complex for TU-154 airliners was developed jointly with the Thomson-CSF firm.

Developed in cooperation with firms and organisations of the FRG are different types of machine-tools, presses, casting machines, hoisting and transporting equipment. Several new types of industrial plant, developed jointly by Soviet and West-German specialists, has actually no equal in world practice, EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA notes.

The main spheres of scientific-technical cooperation with Great Britain include electrical engineering, machine-tool building, aircraft-building and atomic engineering, scientific instrument-making, production of equipment for the coal mining and medical industries. Thus, work is being continued jointly with the National Coal Board of Great Britain on an automated coal-cutting complex. Joint work is being conducted with the British Scientific Instrument-making Association on the development of an automated installation for checking of integrated circuits, and also of individual types of X-ray equipment. Soviet organisations have started work last year in cooperation with the British Nuclear Forum on the technology of welding steam turbines.

Scientific-technical cooperation with Canada, the weekly says, is linked predominantly with problems of developing the Far North. Canadian equipment was used in 1977 to drill an oil well in the permafrost conditions of the Autonomous Komi Republic. A Soviet device for the pneumatic snow-cleaning of railway switches has been tested in Canada. Work has been completed on blueprints for a thermal power plant with two 125-megawatt generating units on the basis of Soviet and Canadian equipment.

Scientific and technical cooperation with Japan is concentrated mainly on farm-machine building, power engineering, ferrous metallurgy, machine-tool building, heavy machine-building, chemical industry, the weekly notes. The main partners of Soviet organisations are the Mitsui, Mitsubishi, Sumitomo, Marubeni, Nissho-Iwai, Itochu and other companies. Thus, in cooperation with the Toa Engineering firm, blueprints were prepared in 1977 of technological lines for the production of ammonia. They are designed to produce 2400-3000 tons of ammonia a day as well as technological lines to produce 5,000 tons of methanol a day. Natural gas will be used as raw material in both cases.

An important place in scientific-technical relations with Italy, the article says, belongs to chemistry and petro-chemistry. Thus, cooperation with the Montecatini-Edison concern has resulted in the development of a new technology for the production of synthetic rubber truck tyres Dutral-S which passed road trials successfully and were launched in serial production. Developed jointly with the "ENI" concern is a new industrial process for the production of ammonia and urea according to the integrated circuit.

TRADE, SCIENTIFIC TIES MUST NOT BE LINKED TO OTHER ISSUES

LD261420Y Moscow TASS in English 1417 GMT 26 Jul 78 LD

Thereby the American side unilaterally cancelled a scheduled session of the commission, which, doubtlessly, damages Soviet-American scientific and technical ties.

Sperry-Rand President

[Text] New York, July 26, TASS--The President and chairman of the board of directors of the Sperry-Rand Company held a press conference in New York. Touching on the ban on the sales of a computer for the Soviet Union, he stated he was puzzled by the U.S. President's decision, since Sperry-Rand, just as, possibly, other companies, in its bid to gain Soviet orders was guided by the spirit of detente which, it seemed, predominated up till now.

The company president said that the U.S. President was wrong when he stated during a press conference on July 19 that this computer reflected a quantitative leap in raising the potentials of computers and for its capacities was much superior to TASS needs for covering the 1980 Olympic games.

It was not easy to win the order, said the president of Sperry-Rand. We were encouraged by the government and we went through all the necessary procedures.

This is the first instance, he stressed, of the President interfering in a rather conventional deal and casts doubt in regard to future requests.

Kendall Article

LD261140Y Moscow TASS in English 1117 GMT 26 Jul 78 LD

[Text] New York, July 26, TASS--Despite the fact that the overwhelming majority of the Americans strongly favour a further development of Soviet-U.S. trade exchanges, U.S. Congress, so far, has refused to give the USSR the most favoured nation treatment in trade, writes in NEWSDAY, Donald Kendall, one of the leading American business-men, chairman of the PepsiCo Company board of directors.

Progress in trade and economic cooperation between the USSR and the USA must not be linked to other problems, as is envisaged by the now effective 1974 trade law, Kendall points out.

Donald Kendall cites figures and facts testifying to the positive impact of Soviet-U.S. trade in expanding employment opportunities in U.S. economy.

In 1976 alone, he writes, the Soviet orders placed in the various sectors of U.S. industry had provided employment for over 30 thousand workers who would otherwise have been unemployed.

But what is most important is that the development of trade between our two countries creates real opportunities for an improved political climate, because as the trade ties develop, so develops mutual understanding.

I am confident, stresses Donald Kendall, that an expansion of our economic ties is one of the most effective ways to achieve detente between our countries and thus contribute to the cause of peace in the world.

PIPER, WHITNEY HAVE BECOME WESTERN 'MEDIA HEROES'

LD270801Y Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 23 Jul p 3 LD

[A. Seregin article: "And What Do the Authors of the Forgery Think?"]

[Text] U.S. Journalists have taken some pains to accustom their readers to sensationalism. Now it springs from the pages of local newspapers every day, reporting the most unlikely facts. Sensationalism is excused by everyone, because there is an increased demand for it, and they pay well for it. It does not matter if the sensationalism is mixed with lies. The edition sells out, the boss is satisfied, and the pens scratch.... The "heroes" of today's newspapers are themselves journalists--the Moscow correspondents of the Baltimore SUN and the New York TIMES. Their names are splashed all over the press and on radio and television and are constantly on the lips of official representatives. And this is why.

It must be said that the price of anti-Sovietism in the United States has gone up recently. Sensing the new trends, some scribblers have plunged themselves into the "subject." Contrary to the Helsinki accords, and in the last analysis to journalistic ethics, all methods have been employed indiscriminately: fraud, the usual fabrication, forgery. Judge for yourselves, how is one to find the "correct" note in the fashionable tune about "human rights in the USSR"? A decision by Moscow City Court has brought H. Piper and C. Whitney to account for flagrant slander against the USSR State Television and Radio. They presented the statement by Z. Gamsakhurdia, who was condemned for anti-Soviet activity, shown on the Vremya program, as a fabrication which had nothing in common, in their opinion, with the truth. Yet Z. Gamsakhurdia himself testified in court and confirmed the truthfulness of the program. It seemed that it was all settled. But no! It was just beginning....

Cameras clicked and typewriters clattered. Everything that happened appeared to be part of a plan. Interviews, statements, meetings.... How can you help becoming a hero "in the free world," when you are so "lucky." We will return to Moscow, cry the herces themselves, who were prudently "holidaying" in the United States. We are not worried about "unpleasant measures of punishment by the Soviet Government." The newspapers refuse to satisfy the "Russians' demands"! Do you think that they are unwilling to pay the fines imposed by the court? Nothing of the kind. They will pay the fines, but they will not admit the slander. Donald H. Patterson, editor in chief of the Baltimore SUN, declares gravely that he "cannot imagine" retracting the assertions of his correspondent. Yes, yes, echoes S. Topping, editor in chief of the New York TIMES, how is it possible to refute "detailed and honest" information?

Stop, Mr S. Topping!

As for the "honest" information, pay attention to the words of your AP colleague, who admitted in a fit of temper that Z. Gamsakhurdia was in court and "gave evidence that the film broadcast on television, which was shown in the courtroom, agrees with the statement he made..."!! Nothing can be more true than that. It will be interesting to see how you will get out of this one, gentlemen.

ZARYA VOSTOKA Editor Comments

LD261505Y Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian 18 Jul 78 p 2 LD

[N. Cherkezishvili article: "In a Distorting Mirror. A Necessary Explanation to the Reader;" For a short TASS English report on the following article see the 19 July Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, page B 3]

[Text] On 29 June, ZARYA VOSTOKA, like other newspapers in the country, published a report that a representative of the USSR State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting had instituted a legal action against Baltimore SUN correspondent Piper and New York TIMES correspondent Whitney, who are accredited in Moscow. These two American journalists are charged with disseminating slanderous information in the press which defamed the honor and dignity of the USSR State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting, although they had at their disposal the official reports of the State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting, TASS and ZARYA VOSTOKA on the Gamsakhurdia trial.

Indeed, it is impossible not to be astonished--to say the least--by Craig Whitney's dispatch, featured in the New York TIMES, that "friends of the Georgian dissident...said that much of his 'confession' telecast nationwide was fabricated by the authorities."

The INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE obsequiously echoed the New York TIMES' insinuations the next day. The reports in these newspapers also casually question the authenticity of the remarks by Gamsakhurdia in court, quoted by ZARYA VOSTOKA, by citing the following devastating argument: "He simply did not say such things in court," said an acquaintance of his who was present in court."

For the moment let us put aside the natural question: Why should readers believe the mysterious "friends" and "acquaintances" more than the court records and television interview.

As editor of ZARYA VOSTOKA, I regard it as my duty to give the necessary explanation to the newspaper's readers. Especially since I received Messrs Piper and Whitney at their own request and willingly answered all their questions in the belief that much might be of interest to foreign journalists visiting Georgia. [paragraph continues]

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However, the range of their interests rapidly narrowed and confined itself to the proceedings on the Gamsakhurdia case. Even then their "exposes" were, as they say in journalistic circles, ready at their fingertips.

"Has the newspaper published materials on the Gamsakhurdia trial?" the guests asked.

"We are preparing an article which is scheduled for publication on 24 May," I answered.

Question: Do you believe in his repentance?

Answer: It is obvious. But despite this, he was sentenced in accordance with the law.

The question about publication was asked with ulterior motives. At any rate it is now clear that the attack on the USSR State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting was completed immediately after Gamsakhurdia's appearance on the "Vremya" program, and then the "facts" were collected.

Unlike the visiting correspondents, I am not going to cite "acquaintances" or even the testimony of our staffer who was present at the trial and who published an article in ZARYA VOSTOKA, since the editor, they will say, is an interested party. I will quote extracts from the court records of Gamsakhurdia's testimony (I translate the Georgian literally):

"I now think completely differently. But I was so involved in this matter that my approach was not sufficiently critical. I see that now, I have become convinced of it. If I had not seen it, I would keep silent altogether."

Again: "My activity was harmful. Do not think that I gave that evidence because I am afraid of imprisonment. I am not doing all this because I expect indulgence. The motive of my crime is as recorded in the indictment. It is unpatriotic activity...."

I also cite these quotations because many of Gamsakhurdia's guardians across the ocean also cited the statements of the notorious Sakharov, who attempted to explain that Gamsakhurdia "recognizes his actions as criminal according to Soviet laws, but he does not regard himself as morally guilty" (AP). And so Sakharov, who is in Moscow, was discovered to be the most convincing "source" of information about a trial which took place in Tbilisi.

I want to add that the trial in Tbilisi was not held in camera. The public was present.

In his dispatch from Tbilisi, Whitney exclaims: "The televised confession was a shock for dissidents in Moscow and for his friends here in Tbilisi, who knew him as a fierce advocate of Georgia's independence from Soviet power."

First: The televised confession was no shock to those who were at the trial. Second: Once again, we have these anonymous "acquaintances" and "friends." But maybe the anonymous "acquaintance" and "friends" are kept incognito to avoid offense or because it is necessary to maintain secrecy to avoid bringing the "anger of the authorities" down on them? In fact, it simply looks like a bad move. Can there be any question of tact when the author did not deem it necessary to observe tact with regard to Manana Gamsakhurdia, a "woman with a 20-month old child in her arms," as Whitney presented her, citing the following: "The wife of 39-year old dissident Zviad said that at the end of his trial in Tbilisi last Friday her husband asserted that 'I do not renounce my humanist activity; I will serve my sentence and return feeling the same way.'" It has been learned that Manana has never set eyes on Whitney and Piper. [paragraph continues]

It is probably the author's same old mythical hero who is at work here--an "acquaintance" or rather an obliging inner voice of the correspondent, since numerous meetings with inhabitants of Tbilisi had failed to provide the desired information. Maybe these meetings only disappointed the interviewer and left the interviewees with an unpleasant impression. For instance, when they met the university scientists N. and Z. Kakabadze, the American guests as in our conversation, rapidly informed their interlocutors of their unscientific interests: "What language is used for teaching in the Georgian University?" "Is there a danger that your nation will be absorbed by the Russians?" "Is it true that Georgians live better and brighter lives than Russians?" But, as the saying goes, ask a silly question and get the silly answer which the correspondents painstakingly took down in their notebooks from the scientists' words: "Yes, the sun is brighter here...." The scientists decided to make a joke of it.

and now I want to find out if the U.S. correspondents raised their pens in defence of Gamsakhurdia. Of course not: If he had been severely punished they would have been grateful for the opportunity to obtain more space in the newspaper and a correspondingly greater response. It seems that the fate of Gamsakhurdia, who was previously unknown, is not the point. The point is that the trial named various Shiplers, Belousoviches and friends who, disguising themselves in the transparent garb of champions of Georgian culture and defenders of the originality of our literature or polyphonic singing, actually attempted, along with Whitney and Piper, to import into our country the ideas of anticommunism which are nourished by multimillion-dollar subsidies.

So-called dissidence is manufactured in the West. Fishers of men, despairing of their catch in the waters of consumerism, have cast aside their colorful packages and have switched the attack to the territory of spirituality. But the methods are the same--they are standardized like any enterprise, including the enterprise of journalism--and they are based on the flimsy evidence of mythical "acquaintances" or on fairytales like this report in Vienna's KURIER: "Without railroad communications and also without road links with the rest of the Soviet Union for 4 months, Georgians are utilizing these extremely advantageous conditions...."

One might wonder what the connection is between everything which has been said before and this quotation, which really is the limit. But there is a connection: The standards are the same. The standards of attitude toward work, of attitude toward the facts and, finally, of attitude toward one's own professional dignity.

There is one immutable law in our journalism--write what you saw, write what you are firmly certain of. The Russian proverb applies to this: Measure seven times; cut only once.... Our guests spent a long time trying everything on for size, but then they cut according to their own yardsticks, which they already had. We do not want to impose our yardstick on American journalists. We can also understand that Gamsakhurdia's confession somehow did not fit into their readymade journalistic scheme. But, it seems to us, one principle operates among all decent people--you must answer for slander and insult. At any rate, that is customary in our country. Both in Georgia and in Moscow.

ANDREW YOUNG'S REMARKS SOUND 'SHARPLY DISSONANT NOTE'

LD271029Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Jul 78 p 5 LD

[Yevgeniy Rusakov article: "The Truth Is Hard To Swallow"]

[Text] New York--"Freedom for the Wilmington 10!", "freedom for all political prisoners in the United States!"--these cries have rung out many times in a thousand voices at the White House fence. But the White House kept silent, pretending this was none of its concern.

Suddenly the silence has been broken by a flow of eloquence. The admission by Andrew Young, U.S. permanent representative at the United Nations, who holds a cabinet-level post in the administration, about the hundreds and thousands of political prisoners in American prisons burst here like an exploding bomb. Senators and newspapers immediately fell on the "culprit" with unusual fury and rare unanimity! "Fire him!" "Punish him!" President J. Carter considered it necessary to meet with Andrew Young and reprimand him. At the same time several congressmen confirmed it: Yes, it is true, in the United States people are sent to prison for political reasons.

The reason for official Washington's extremely nervous reaction to Andrew Young's statement is understandable. The latest anti-Soviet campaign had just been launched in the United States. Leaders of the administration and Congress were shedding crocodile tears over "persecuted dissidents" in the Soviet Union, trying to out-shout each other and making statements reminiscent of the height of the cold war. Andrew Young's statement, at the height of this anti-Soviet orgy, sounded a sharply dissonant note.

Washington's fury at Andrew Young's admissions was not due just to the fact that the hypocritical campaign "in defense of human rights" has been involuntarily exposed, and not only to the fact that the "hawks" are allergic to any sober statements. It was also caused by fear of the growing movement for the liberation of political prisoners in the United States and for the political and socioeconomic rights of Negroes, poor people and all victims of exploitation, oppression and racial discrimination. Andrew Young was an associate of Martin Luther King. And it is no accident that he has now mentioned that he was himself a political prisoner 10 years ago, being jailed after a demonstration for Negro rights in Atlanta.

The Washington administrators are interested least of all in the truth about political prisoners in the United States, the numerous manifestations of American racism and other forms of political discrimination, and the lack of rights of millions of people. How shortsighted are these attempts to stifle the most acute domestic problems with a ballyhoo about their imaginary adherence to "human rights" abroad. Washington's hypocritical policy on this question has backfired.

GENERAL JONES' REMARKS AIMED AT TORPEDOING SALT

LD261737Y Moscow TASS in English 1831 GMT 26 Jul 78 LD

[Text] Washington, July 26, TASS--American "hawks" are continuing the attempts to torpedo attainment of a new agreement at the Soviet-American negotiations on limitation of strategic armaments, to have a further build up of military expenditures.

Speaking at a press conference at the Pentagon, the new Chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff General David Jones has said that whether a new Soviet-American agreement is reached or not, U.S. military expenditures would be on the rise, and this, he asserted, is allegedly necessary to preserve an equilibrium in armaments. The general advocated "firmness" of the United States at the negotiations on limitation of strategic armaments and made it clear that the Pentagon would "reserve the right" to opposition to the agreement, if it is not in keeping with the terms "acceptable" to the American military department.

Such assertions are regarded by observers as deliberate attempts to put a spoke in the wheel of negotiations, at which, as U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance recently said, "a slow but a steady progress" is under way. Attainment of this progress, he stressed, is of priority significance, since the negotiations on limitation of strategic armaments deal with problems affecting world peace.

But, as was clear from Jone's speech, not all people in the United States agree with such an approach. Certain influential forces, disregarding the pressing interests and aspirations of peace-loving peoples, are unwilling to take constructive steps with a view to curb the arms race.

CHINA CARD SHOULD BE REPLACED BY CONSTRUCTIVE DIALOG

LD261216Y Moscow in English to North America 0030 GMT 26 Jul 78 LD

[Valentin Zorin commentary]

[Text] The American news media have had much to say about American relations with China and relations between the Soviet Union and China. During my recent visit to the United States, I noticed the excitement of some Washington officials and newsmen over the step-up in diplomatic activity toward Peking. The heightened activity appears to have started after the President's adviser on national security, Dr Brzezinski, had talks with officials in Peking.

I am not inclined to overestimate Dr Brzezinski's influence in the administration. I agree with President Carter that important issues of foreign policy are up to the President to decide. But the fact that Dr Brzezinski has been so energetic in pressing his viewpoint since his return from China would seem to indicate that top administration officials see eye to eye with him on certain aspects of relations with China. However, the national security adviser is the most outspoken on these matters, so it is natural for him to be the target of criticism inside and outside the United States.

I'll have more to say about this criticism in a moment, for the present I would like to voice an opinion about the China card. While in the United States I talked to various political leaders, and I found that some have very dangerous illusions. They feel that more active relations with China are a way to force the Soviet Union to make serious concessions. Apparently these people know little about the history of this country and the Russian character. Over the centuries many have tried to pressure Moscow, but never once has the pressure proved effective. Those who attempted arm-twisting with respect to the Soviet Union have long since become nonentities in history, whereas this country is now one of the world's great powers. But if pressuring Moscow produced no results in the past, why should it today--when the Soviet Union is so strong economically, militarily and politically?

When it comes to countries like the Soviet Union and the United States, one must indeed be politically naive to think anything can be gained by blackmail. Though China has a big population and considerable resources, it is far from being one of the world's leading powers. Its economic and military potential lag far behind those of the Soviet Union and the United States. Why should Washington think the prospect of an American-Chinese alliance so frightens the Soviet Union that it will yield to pressure? The Soviet Union takes a realistic view of things. It considers the real balance of strength, not mere alliances on paper; and the balance of strength is such that the Soviet Union has no reason to fear the political manoeuvres of Washington and Peking.

In reality the plans of some nearsighted Washington politicians hold out a real danger for the United States, not for the Soviet Union. These politicians may be eager to play the China card, but it is not likely a country like China is going to let itself be used as a card in an American game. It is more likely it is going to try to play the American card in its own game. There are many signs that Peking wants to clash the United States with the Soviet Union and then see what it can get out of the conflict.

President Carter often states his determination to protect human rights throughout the world. Washington must consider China a model country when it comes to human rights. Can it be it has never heard of the mass executions in China? Or that the Chinese people as a whole have lived for years under a tyrannical regime? It is heard to believe Dr Brzezinski and Senator Jackson noted no violations of human rights during their visits to China. Obviously, the idea of playing the China card against the Soviet Union interests them far more than the state of human rights.

There is good reason for anxiety both inside and outside the United States over the nearsighted policy of some Washington officials toward China. This policy is certainly not going to help prevent a nuclear global war or stop the arms race. Peking has no wish to help solve either of these problems. And it hasn't the standing, either.

What is needed is a constructive dialog between the United States and the Soviet Union. It is poor policy to reduce the chances of such a dialog with false accusations and attempts at blackmail. President Brezhnev has called it an unwise policy. He was referring specifically to the attempts in the United States to play the China card against the Soviet Union and to play it at summit level and in a rather cynical way, as he said. President Brezhnev warned the persons making these attempts that they might have to pay dearly for them.

SENATE YIELDS TO PRESSURE, LIFTS TURKISH ARMS EMBARGO

LD261658Y Moscow TASS in English 1640 GMT 26 Jul 78 LD

[Text] Washington, July 26, TASS--TASS correspondent Yevgeniy Yegorov reports: Contrary to the official statements by the White House about the intention to reduce the sale of American weapons to foreign countries, the United States is actually expanding its military supplies to other countries.

The USA is still the greatest arms seller in the world. In the current fiscal year, it will deliver to other countries various weapons costing a record sum of 13.2 thousand million dollars, which is almost two thousand million dollars more than last year. In pursuing this policy, the Carter administration exerted heavy pressure on U.S. Congress to make it lift the embargo on arms sales to Turkey, introduced in 1975 after the Turkish troops had been introduced into the territory of Cyprus.

President Jimmy Carter and other members of his administration have subjected Senate members to heavy pressure, saying that the embargo on the supply of arms to Turkey weakens the south-eastern flank of the NATO military bloc.

Yesterday, [the] Senate, by 57 votes against 42 lifted the embargo on the arms sales to Turkey. The decision to lift the embargo was adopted in the form of a resolution on the draft law on military aid to foreign states. This compromise resolution sponsored by Robert Byrd, Senate Democratic majority leader, with the consent of the White House, envisages appropriating 175 million dollars in military "aid" for Turkey in 1979 fiscal year. The U.S. Senate decision adds a new dimension to the arms race between Greece and Turkey and will further exacerbate tensions in this strategically sensitive area of the Mediterranean.

Jody Powell, the White House press secretary, said President Carter was "satisfied" with Senate decision. The State Department, for its part, also issued a statement welcoming the Senate decision. The decision to cancel the embargo must also be taken by the House of Representatives of U.S. Congress.

SENATE AMENDMENT OPENS LOOPHOLE IN SANCTIONS ON RHODESIA

LD270858Y Moscow TASS in English 0837 GMT 27 Jul 78 LD

["Reactionary Amendment"--TASS headline]

[Text] Washington, July 27, TASS--By a vote of 59 to 36 the United States Senate on Wednesday adopted an amendment to the foreign security assistance bill, sponsored by Senator Jacob Javits and Senator Clifford Case, which gives the United States a new loophole for lifting all economic sanctions against Rhodesia, proclaimed in conformity with United Nations resolutions. The amendment authorizes the United States President to lift the economic sanctions against Rhodesia in case of the holding of "free" elections there, the formation of a so-called "majority government" and the convocation of a conference for a political settlement with the participation of all sides. The United States President can lift the sanctions in case, if he decides that a conference with participation of all sides cannot be convened not by fault of the Rhodesian Government. Thus, this Senate decision enables the United States to blackmail the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front if it refuses to take part in the puppet neocolonialist regime the Western powers plan to impose upon the Zimbabwe people.

The right-wing forces in the United States have long been pressing for the lifting of the sanctions against the racist Smith regime. They are supported by the big metallurgical monopolies that are interested in the early resumption of chrome imports from Rhodesia.

U.S. ARMS SALES TO IRAN PART OF ANTI-SOVIET PLAN

LD271120Y Moscow in English to North America 0001 GMT 27 Jul 78 LD

[Sergey Losev commentary]

[Text] American Government officials continue to speak of the significance of talks with the Soviet Union to restrict the sale of weapons abroad, but there are many signs Washington wants to use the talks as a coverup for a militaristic policy, despite President Carter's election promises and the administration's repeated assurances that American weapon deliveries will be cut back, official figures show that in 1977 the United States sold \$11.3 billion worth of munitions, and this year it plans to sell \$13.2 billion worth.

One sign of this dangerous policy is the massive supply of American military equipment to Iran, a country that no nation threatens. It was officially announced in Washington a few days ago that President Carter had ok'd the sale of another big shipment to the value of \$600million. Iran will be getting 31 of the latest Phantom fighter bombers capable of carrying nuclear weapons. But this is only a small share of the offensive American weapons that are flooding into Iran. The New York TIMES says that in the past 20 years the Pentagon has sold Iran more than \$18 billion worth of weapons. Obviously this is much more than required for Iran's defense. The Iranian Airforce has bought 140 F-4E jet planes and 160 F-16's. Iran has also purchased surface naval vessels, submarines, missiles, artillery, tanks, and armored troop carriers. At the moment talks are under way to supply Iran with 70 F-14 fighters to a total value of \$2 billion. The planned deal has the full support of the military-industrial complex of the United States. And no wonder! The Bell Company alone has made \$1 billion on the sale of helicopters to Iran.

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The administration uses a variety of arguments to justify such massive sales of weaponry to a country on the Soviet Union's southern frontier. They talk about protecting the oil arteries and the usual nonsense about a Soviet menace, though it is common knowledge the Soviet Union does not threaten either Iran or the United States supply lines for Middle East oil. In reality Washington sees in this massive supply of sophisticated offensive weapons a good way of turning Iran into a strategic springboard for the United States.

Along with the supplies go large numbers of American military experts. At the moment some 8,000 are teaching the Iranian Army to handle the new weapons. But the total number of American experts in the country is at least 40,000.

Next month a government delegation led by Assistant Defense Secretary McGiffert will reportedly go to Iran to discuss another long list of military supplies and the possibility of sending additional United States military advisers to Teheran. It makes you wonder how the United States would behave if the Soviet Union was sending weaponry and military experts to Mexico on the same grand scale. The American experts in Iran are not just sightseeing, you know. They are busy doing work hostile to the Soviet Union at bases that supposedly belong to Iran. The New York TIMES reports that since Turkey temporarily closed the American bases on its territory, Iran has become the center for collecting intelligence about neighboring nations. For one, the paper says, it serves as the main listening post for radio telephone conversations, notably in Iraq. The United States AWACS system is used for this. In short, America's policy towards Iran offers a good example of Washington's efforts to get the upper hand in the Middle East at the expense of the security of the Soviet Union and the other socialist nations. Even in the United States, voices have been raised against the provocative policy, which could have dire consequences. Senator Edward Kennedy, among other leading politicians, has warned that supplying so much American weaponry to Iran creates an explosive situation in the Middle East.

AMERICA SHOULD CONCENTRATE ON 'REAL' ECONOMIC THREAT

LD262110Y Moscow TASS in English 2050 GMT 26 Jul 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, July 26, TASS--TASS economic commentator Ivan Ablamov writes: The myth about the "Soviet menace" has been ballooned to tremendous proportions in the United States. The organizers of the propaganda ballyhoo are not embarrassed by the fact that this myth explodes like a soap bubble the moment it comes into contact with concrete reality. The "Soviet menace" is a fake. It exists only in the inflamed imagination of certain political and military leaders, who exploit it for unseemly purposes. It is common knowledge that the Soviet Union threatens no one and does not intend to attack anybody.

Instead of seeking various menaces abroad, in places where they do not exist, the United States would be wiser to look inside the country where real, tangible dangers do exist. One of them is constituted by growing economic difficulties.

"The menace of a new production slump is imminent"--this is the view of the American magazine TIME. This pessimistic assessment is based on the sharp drop in the rates of growth of the U.S. gross national product this year as compared to 1977. This drop amounts to one quarter. The slowing down of economic development brings in its wake growing unemployment, which, according to official figures, now affects approximately six million people. (according to trade union figures--ten million people).

Imminent also is the danger of the further skyrocketing of inflation, which, according to the U.S. President himself, is problem number one in the U.S. economy. In the second quarter of the current year its rates of growth amounted to 10 percent as compared with 7 per cent in the first three months. What is more, prices on foodstuffs grew 17 per cent in the annual estimation.

Washington is trying to combat these real dangers by means of a fake one. By references to the "Soviet menace," the United States strives to justify the sharp intensification of the arms race. In the meantime, previous "military booms" had never benefited the American economy. After the Second World War the United States has spent hundreds of thousands of millions of dollars on military needs. This, however, did not save the country from recurring economic crises. The present calculations to heal economic ailments by injecting billions of dollars into the military economy are also built on sand. Withdrawal of scores of billions of dollars a year from the peaceful sectors of economy and their squandering on unproductive military needs produces disproportions in the American economy, increases the inflation and in the final count puts a brake on economic development, something that we are witnessing now.

It is not accidental that the more sober-minded political leaders regard the development of peaceful economy, peaceful economic cooperation of the United States with other countries, as a means of alleviating the economic difficulties of the United States. As estimated by American experts, given the same level of spendings, the peaceful sectors of production are able to provide 50-100 percent more employment than the military industry. Reorientation of financial means to peaceful production leads to the easing of inflationary pressure. Advantages of peaceful economy are perfectly obvious. They allow to combat successfully the real and not the fake threats. By refusing to give peaceful economy priority over military production, the United States does tremendous harm to its national interests.

ECONOMIC FAILURES LEAD TO DROP IN CARTER'S POPULARITY

LD220730Y Moscow TASS in English 0704 GMT 22 Jul 78 LD

["USA: Difficulties Mounting"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, July 22, TASS--"The returns of the recent public opinion polls, writes Tomas Kolesnichenko, PRAVDA's correspondent in Washington, indicate that the popularity of the present U.S. administration and personally James Carter among the country's population has sharply dropped."

"The Americans won't be astonished that a President may forget many of his election promises after entering upon their office. But the rapid metamorphosis, which happened to the new President, and the haste with which the election manifestoes were swept aside like fallen autumn leaves, like rubbish, was amazing," writes the correspondent.

Vaccillation, readiness to yield to pressure from right-wing forces, fear to lose support from big business and conservative circles became manifest practically from the very first days of the new administration's activity.

The election pledges have been ever more buried into oblivion, while concessions to big pressures have been becoming increasingly obvious. Fearing pressure from the right-wing forces, the administration is renouncing the measures it earlier promised.

This is particularly clearly seen from the example of the Pentagon's budget. Instead of the promised reduction, it is steadily growing.

While pouring a rain of gold on the monopolies of the military-industrial complex, Washington is severely cutting spendings on social programs. Officially this is described as combatting "enemy No 1"--inflation. But the effectiveness of anti-inflationary measures can be seen from the following figures: While in 1976 the rate of inflation was 4.8 per cent, in 1977--6.4 per cent. Now it persists at the rate of 8-10 per cent a year!"

"The recent summit meeting in Bonn of the seven major capitalist states has failed to produce any concrete results for economic improvement, the correspondent notes. It only again exposed the pests of capitalist economy, including that of the United States, and showed the inability of the administration to work any changes both in the field of domestic economy and as regards eliminating the serious economic differences and conflicts of the United States with the other leading capitalist states.

There is one more important thing to it. The main slogan of the election campaign of the Democrats was to "regain trust in the administration." But the new administration has failed to achieve it either. And this is quite understandable. The administration proclaimed, for example, a holy campaign in defence of human rights. But the hypocritical and tendentious character of this noisy campaign became obvious when everybody could see that the White House is [by] no means concerned over the destiny of political prisoners in the United States itself. For example, in North Carolina, nor in the prisons of South Korea, Chile and other countries "friendly" to the United States.

"The inability to cope with the country's domestic problems to end the moral and political crisis is one of the main causes of why Washington is toughening its foreign policy line," Tomas Kolesnichenko notes.

NAVAL CRUISE MISSILE FAILS TEST IN CALIFORNIA

LD261628Y Moscow TASS in English 1558 GMT 26 Jul 78 LD

[Text] New York, July 26, TASS--The regular testing of the Tomahawk cruise missiles conducted at the military testing ground in the vicinity of the San Clemente Island (California) ended in failure. Two test U.S. Navy missiles worth 1.7 million dollars each were launched from a submerged atomic Guitarro submarine. Both missiles, after a few seconds, fell back into the ocean.

According to the spokesman for the General Dynamics corporation which had got the multi-million Tomahawk order, the abortive launching was due to sea water penetration into the missiles' main engines.

The Pentagon places great hopes on the cruise missiles and, in the face of the protests by the broad segments of U.S. public, continues to force the development of this costly weapon capable of carrying nuclear warheads. Serial production of Tomahawk missiles is scheduled for the beginning of the eighties.

NASA OPERATION SUCCESSFULLY STABILIZES SKYLAB

LD260917Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Jul 78 p 5 LD

[TASS report: "Skylab Has Been Stabilized"]

[Text] New York, 20 July--Specialists at the NASA center in Houston have succeeded in stabilizing the Skylab station.

A NASA representative reported that after a series of unsuccessful attempts, the center was able to operate the gyroscopes and turn the solar batteries toward the sun. In a few days, an attempt will be made to orient the station in the direction calculated.

The orbital station, launched in 1973, has recently been rapidly losing height, and specialists fear that it could fall to earth if it is not moved to a higher orbit.

CHINESE DESIGNS ON SRV MAY SPREAD THROUGHOUT S.E. ASIA

LD251300Y Moscow TASS in English 1155 GMT 25 July 78 LD

[Text] Jakarta, July 25, TASS--The influential Indonesian newspaper MERDEKA exposed the real purposes of Peking's foreign policy in Southeast Asia. Touching upon the question of the resumption of diplomatic relations between Indonesia and the People's Republic of China, the newspaper points out that, bearing in mind China's present provocative policy, a rapprochement with it could create a threat to security in that region and would spell approval of its dangerous strategic designs. In this context, MERDEKA recalls that the present Chinese leadership bluntly opposes relaxation of international tension and advocates another world war.

Of late, the article says, high-ranking officials of the People's Republic of China more than once issued statements on China's alleged "constructive position" vis-a-vis the countries of Southeast Asia and a desire to establish "goodneighbourly relations" with them. The activation of the diplomacy of Peking and its increased interest in the southern neighbours, MERDEKA writes, are in fact explained by China's long-standing desire to possess the rich natural resources of those countries. It regards the region of Southeast Asia as its traditional sphere of influence.

According to the Peking leaders, about half of Asia are "lost Chinese territories," which must be "liberated." Thus, the newspaper points out, China's tactics in Southeast Asia fully accords with Mao Tse-tung's pronouncements on "the necessity of getting Southeast Asia" with its resources. After all this, how does the Chinese leadership dare to accuse someone of hegemony, MERDEKA asks.

Peking regards the Overseas Chinese, Huachiao, as an important tool in the implementation of its schemes. Of late, it has paid closest attention to them. It is common knowledge that most of the close to 23 million Huachiao live in Southeast Asia, and in a number of countries of the region they hold strong economic positions. In Indonesia, for instance, people of Chinese origin control at least 80 percent of private capital, in Malaysia they practically fully control the production of rubber and tin.

The Southeast Asian countries, MERDEKA goes on to say, must draw the lessons from the provocative actions by the People's Republic of China against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, on whose government China tried to exert pressure, fanning a campaign in defence of allegedly oppressed people of Chinese nationality living in that country. The time may well come, the newspaper emphasises, when Peking begins entertaining such "family sentiments" for Huachiao in other countries of the region.

Thus, MERDEKA says, the Chinese policy may become the main source of aggravation of tension, may undermine stability, create a real threat to peace and security in Southeast Asia, territorial claims, intervention into the internal affairs, and the use of force for settling disputes--this is the main foreign political arsenal of Peking, the newspaper says.

To withstand Chinese machinations, MERDEKA says in conclusion, it is imperative to develop cooperation between the countries of Southeast Asia, to promote the establishment of good relations with the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and to discuss the possibility of setting up a peaceful, free and neutral zone in Southeast Asia. Indonesia must also facilitate an expansion of contacts with other socialist countries.

AUCCTU HEAD HIPS ITALY'S UNIONS FOR CRITICIZING TRIALS

LD261410Y Moscow TASS in English 1353 GMT 26 Jul 78 LD

["In Whose Interests?"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, July 26, TASS--Reports have appeared in recent days in the Western press media to the effect that definite circles in Italy's trade union movement are out to spoil the friendly relations between the Soviet and Italian trade unions. This is done on the pretext of the trials held in the Soviet Union of spies and criminals, who acted against the interests of the state, and these trials are described as persecution for dissention, for political views and convictions.

A TASS correspondent addressed AUCCTU Secretary Petr Pimenov with a request that he express his point of view on this issue.

In our opinion, Pimenov says, it is a far-fetched pretext.

And really, what is the point at issue? Some time ago the Military Collegium of the Supreme Court of the USSR examined the criminal case of A. Filatov, an agent of a foreign intelligence service, and the court collegium for criminal affairs of the Supreme Court of the Russian Federation heard the criminal case of A. Shcharanskiy on a charge of high treason in the form of espionage, arranging for aid to a foreign state in its hostile activity against the USSR, and of antisoviet agitation and propaganda. A. Ginzberg, who is often mentioned in the Western press, engaged himself in the fabrication of slanderous materials about the USSR. In other words, the Soviet court convicted spies and criminals for their actions against the state.

Definite circles in the West that are hostile to socialism and the cause of detente tried and are trying even now to picture things as if Shcharanskiy and company were tried not for their crimes, but for their political views and convictions. But every unbiased person, who familiarised himself with the materials of the trials--and detailed reports to this score were published in the Soviet press (in particular in our trade union newspaper TRUD, whose daily print is now more than eight million copies) and were transmitted through TASS,--can see for himself that the attempts to picture the criminals as some sort of "fighters for an idea" are absolutely groundless.

In the course of the trials, which were held strictly in keeping with Soviet laws, it was irrefutable proved (which is also seen from material evidence, testimony by witnesses and all other materials of the cases) that on trial were spies and criminals against the state, i.e., persons who committed crimes punishable by law in any country, including Italy.

I should like to recall in this connection that the international covenant on civil and political rights, which was ratified by the Soviet Union, and which for that matter, was signed by Italy says that rights and freedoms cannot be exercised to the detriment of the interests of state security and public order. Of course, our opponents are inclined to forget these facts and documents when they find it no good to them.

The working people of the Soviet land fully approve of the decisions of the courts in the cases of the spies and criminals. They wrathfully condemn the actions of the criminals as well as attempts of any interference from the outside in the internal affairs of the USSR. As in this case the point at issue is the protection of the state. Therefore, the AUCCTU sees no reason why the lawful sentences of Soviet justice in the above said cases should be called in question.

I should like to stress once again that the anti-Soviet outcry started in the West was inspired by reactionary circles hostile to the cause of detente and improvement of relations among nations. The more deplorable it is that some representatives of Italian trade unions were wittingly or unwittingly drawn into this sordid campaign.

The reactionary circles in the West, in particular in Italy, whipping up the noisy campaign in connection with "observance of human rights" are apparently pursuing the aim of presenting the Soviet Union's policy in a wrong light, of distracting the attention of the working people in the capitalist countries from the acute and essential socio-economic and political problems.

The sixty years of our state's existence have shown for the whole world to see the dynamism and the enormous creative possibilities of socialism, which serves the interests of the working people. And naturally, the enemies of socialism cannot reconcile themselves with it.

As far as Soviet people are concerned, they expressed their attitude to the exercise of human rights in the USSR by their unanimous support for the new constitution giving every member of the society a wide spectrum of socio-economic, political and personal rights and freedoms, including the right to criticise shortcomings, the freedom of religion and so on.

Development of friendly relations between the working people of all countries is for us a form of expression of proletarian internationalism. We have been marching along this road throughout all these sixty years. Speaking of the Soviet trade unions, it must be said that they now maintain links with trade union centres in 130 countries of the world. We think that the attempts of those who strive under any pretext to weaken the unity of actions of the working people will be doomed to a failure this time again.

BREZHNEV'S MEMOIRS PUBLISHED IN ITALY CAUSES INTEREST

LD251414Y Moscow TASS in English 1340 GMT 25 Jul 78 LD

[Text] Rome, July 25, TASS--"Editori Riuniti", a progressive Italian publishing house, published in Italian one volume of memoirs by the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev. It includes Leonid Brezhnev's books "Small Land" and "Rebirth". The one volume published in 10 thousand copies, which is a big edition by Italy's standards, is beautifully designed and contains photographs illustrating Leonid Brezhnev's participation in the battles in the area of Novorossiysk.

Leonid Brezhnev's books, says J. Garritano, Editori Riunit publishers' director, narrates about a most important page in the liberation struggle of the Soviet people against the German invaders as well as of the creative work of the Soviet people to reconstruct the war-ravaged national economy. I was especially impressed, say J. Garritano, by Leonid Brezhnev's solicitous attitude to ordinary soldiers and his high appreciation of the contribution of a rank-and file Soviet man to the defeat of Hitler Germany. This book helps a more profound understanding of the role of the Soviet Union in the struggle for strengthening peace among nations and of its desire for peaceful and creative work.

After it has seen light, says J. Garritano, the book, written by Leonid Brezhnev, has caused broad interest in Italy. We are already working to prepare to run the book's second edition.

PORTUGUESE CRISIS CAUSED BY RESTORATION OF CAPITALISM

LD262150Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1530 GMT 26 Jul 78 LD

[Text] Lisbon, 26 July--It has been announced here that the government agreement between the Socialist Party and the Social Democratic Center Party (CDS) has been broken off. So less than 7 months have passed and Portugal is threatened with a new governmental crisis.

As is known, the country's present government, which is led by Mario Soares, secretary general of the Socialist Party, includes, along with the socialists, representatives of the rightwing CDS, which upholds the interests of the big landowners and industrialists. Opposing the basic gains of the April 1974 revolution, the centrists have been trying in every way to reduce the agrarian reform and nationalization for naught.

The leaders of the two parties have not been able to conceal their deep differences for long. The blatant hostility of the representatives of big capital forced the centrist leadership to switch to the attack and demand from their coalition partners a review of all government policy and the reorganization of the cabinet, particularly the removal of Luis Salas, the minister of agriculture and fisheries, who is "inconvenient" to the latifundists.

The Socialist Party, which knew full well that concessions to the CDS would give rise to new demands and lead in the long run to political suicide, refused to meet this ultimatum. When they heard of this refusal the centrists recalled all their ministers from the government. The democratic public of Portugal, including the Portuguese Communist Party [PCP], pointed out from the very beginning the "unnatural nature" of the alliance between the Socialist Party and the party of big capital.

A statement by the Political Commission of the PCP Central Committee published here says "the main causes of the crisis are the catastrophic consequences of the policy of restoring capitalism, which has led to an increased deficit in the balance of payments and trade, a growth in foreign debt and poorer living conditions for the broad masses of the people."

The failure of the centrists' plans, the PCP notes, opens up new prospects for improving mutual understanding and rapprochement between the Portuguese democrats aimed at finding a patriotic alternative to the present coalition government. The Communist Party has expressed its readiness "to analyze the situation, together with the socialists and other democrats, and to work out a new policy which meets the interests of the Portuguese people and which can help overcome the financial and economic crisis and maintain national security."

Meanwhile, Portuguese President Ramalho Eanes has held consultations with the leaders of the two parties in the government coalition. After his meeting with the president, M. Soares, secretary general of the Socialist Party, said that the fate of the present government now depends on the head of state.

To settle the issue on the future of the cabinet Ramalho Eanes is holding an extraordinary meeting today of the Revolutionary Council, the highest consultative body in the president's office.

FRENCH CP CC MEMBER SCORES NEUTRON BOMB AS OFFENSIVE

LD262044Y Moscow TASS in English 2036 GMT 26 Jul 78 LD

[Text] Paris, July 26 TASS--The fuss raised by the imperialist powers around neutron weapons shows convincingly once again that the arms race is fraught with a possibility of an atomic war.

This was stated by Louis Baillot, member of the Central Committee of the French Communist Party, in an interview to TASS correspondent Vladimir Korochantsev.

"Our party, he said, has assumed a clear and firm stand vis-a-vis the neutron bomb. We believe it is a dangerous deadly weapon, which imperialist propaganda is trying in vain to present as an 'innocent' and 'defensive' one. The neutron bomb is an offensive weapon. Its invention is another step forward in the perfection of the West's military arsenals, their oversaturation with mass annihilation weapons."

We reject as insolvent the arguments advanced by imperialist propaganda that this bomb allegedly has the only purpose of "containing the advancement of Soviet and Warsaw Treaty tanks...it was noted by the member of the Central Committee of the French Communist Party. Arguments that its "advantage" consists in that it destroys human beings without causing any material damage are monstrous. They reveal the cynicism with which the Western ruling and monopolistic circles look upon the destinies of millions of peoples.

The movement against the neutron bomb, Louis Baillot said, is for the French public and for us, communists, a part of the general struggle for disarmament, which is spreading throughout the contemporary world. The intentions of the United States to launch the production and deploy neutron weapons in the very heart of Europe can only bring about a further intensification of the arms race. Coming out for checking this arms race, we declare also our unbending will to strive for general disarmament.

The French Communist Party has published a memorandum on this question, containing a set of concrete proposals which have the purpose of making France contribute effectively to the cause of disarmament and peace by all her international prestige, by her proper initiatives.

In conclusion, Louis Baillot stated, I should like to note the great importance of the proposals formulated in New York by Andrey Gromyko, the foreign minister of the USSR. Our party holds that they should be accepted by the international community for the sake of progress in disarmament.

DEPUTY PREMIER ARKHIPOV TALKS WITH AUSTRIA'S STARIBACHER

ID251147Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Jul 78 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[Text] TASS--On 20 July I. V. Arkhipov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, received J. Staribacher, Austrian federal minister of commerce, trade and industry, and had a talk with him. W. Siegl, Austrian charge d'affaires ad interim in the USSR, participated in the conversation.

DEMAND FOR 'PACKAGE' MIDEAST SOLUTION REITERATED

LD270907Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Jul 78 p 4 LD

[Article by Ye. Primakov, director of the USSR Academy of Sciences Institute of Oriental Studies: "The Near East Deadlock: What Is the Reason?"]

[Text] For 30 years now events in the Near East have been threatening the peace and security of many peoples and states. Exceeding the confines of that region, the consequences of the Arab-Israeli conflict are affecting the entire system of international relations in the most negative way. The elimination of this conflict--something which accords with the vital interests of the Near East's peoples--might contribute to the development of the process of the relaxation of tension and to the normalization of relations among states and at a global level. That is why the events taking place there are watched closely throughout the world.

The U.S. policy aimed at "breathing life" at all costs into the deadlocked Egyptian-Israeli separate talks initiated after President as-Sadat's visit to Jerusalem cannot fail to attract serious attention in this connection. The three-way meeting between the Egyptian and Israeli foreign ministers and the U.S. secretary of state held recently in Britain on an American initiative also served this aim. Judging by the remarks of officials and press commentaries, this meeting failed to yield real results; however, it has been announced that it will be followed up and U.S. Secretary of State C. Vance will soon fly out to the Near East to organize the next round of talks.

The 8 months since As-Sadat's trip to Israel have totally proved the correctness of those who even at that time assessed the separate Egyptian-Israeli dialog as a bomb placed under a just universal settlement in the Near East and as an action that sharply weakened Arab resistance to Israel's expansionist policy. As a result of the Egyptian president's mission Israel's position has become tougher and more uncompromising. It is precisely since As-Sadat's trip that Prime Minister Begin has declared that UN Security Council Resolution 242 does not extend to the West Bank of Jordan and the Gaza Strip, and so Israel has no intention of withdrawing its troops from these Arab territories. It is precisely since the start of "As-Sadat's mission" that the Israeli leadership has clarified its approach to the Palestinian problem by publicly proclaiming that it does not recognize the Palestinians' right to create their own state or to return Palestinian refugees to the West Bank and the Gaza Strip while at the same time it proclaims the "right" to establish Israeli settlements on these territories under the protection of Israeli troops. Of course, the "Palestinian autonomy" proclaimed here is a form of the annexation by Israel of the Arab lands seized during the 1967 war.

As is well known, As-Sadat asserted that his "historic mission" would lead to a change in the "orientation" of American policy on the Arab-Israeli conflict. The game, he said, is worth the candle. Indeed, the United States has begun to talk a great deal about the "balanced nature" of the American policy line. But what kind of "balance" is this? An impartial attitude on the part of the United States toward Israel and the Arab countries? No. The U.S. administration and press are continuing to stress the U.S. "special relationship" with Israel. The Zionist lobby in the United States, which directly influences the process of the formation of Washington's Near East policy, has a tremendous role in the preservation of this relationship. While there have been some changes in the American policy line in the Near East recently, they have been manifested in the greater U.S. interest than before in narrowing the gap between the positions of Israel and the pro-Western Arab regimes.

Under present conditions the United States is proceeding from the existence of two such "pillars" in the Arab world--Saudi Arabia and Egypt. Saudi Arabia's place in U.S. policy is conditioned primarily by the fact that this country is the biggest reservoir, producer and exporter of oil in the capitalist world and consequently exerts a serious influence on the policy of OPEC which unites the oil-producing countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America, particularly on the question of oil prices. At the same time Saudi Arabia and Egypt are utilized as advocates of the imperialist policy line in the Near East region and in Africa. It is sufficient to note the Saudi-Egyptian conspiracy against Libya, the sending of Egyptian soldiers to Zaire and, finally, the latest example: the Saudi-Egyptian initiative for the convening of an Arab League Council session in Cairo with the aim of isolating the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen and preparing armed intervention against that country.

However, the U.S. policy aimed at narrowing the gap between the positions of Israel and the conservative Arab regimes has nothing to do with the process of establishing just and lasting peace in the Near East.

First, this "balanced nature" of the American policy line not only does not rule out but on the contrary envisages comprehensive support and aid to Israel, including large deliveries of the most modern weapons.

Second, the "balanced nature" of the American policy line contributes to the split in the Arab world and to weakening its resistance to Israel's policy. The practical neutralization of Egypt along with the persisting occupation by Israel of Arab territories intensifies the danger for Syria and Jordan and does not create conditions for an agreement on the basis of a universal compromise. As far as Lebanon is concerned, As-Sadat's policy line, inspired by Washington, has contributed to the development of the bloody tragedy which is threatening the very existence of that country as a united sovereign state.

Third and last, the "balanced" U.S. policy is obviously aimed at sidestepping the main problem of a Near East settlement--the Palestinian problem, without a solution of which a just and stable peace in the Near East is altogether unthinkable.

It is clear that the "As-Sadat plan" submitted to the Americans and published in the press changes the ideas of Palestinian self-determination and creation of their own state and the return of Gaza to Egyptian administrative control and the Western Bank to Jordanian control. As-Sadat is thus trying to solve territorial questions at the expense of the Palestinian people. The "As-Sadat plan," like the "Begin plan," does not even mention the need to involve the PLO in solving the Palestine problem.

Is it not clear that if each of the "initial positions"--those of Israel and Egypt--ignores the Palestinian problem, their rapprochement with U.S. aid is aimed at excluding the Palestinian problem from the settlement process on what is now a "coordinated" Israeli-Egyptian basis?

In an interview with a U.S. television company Begin stated recently that the United States is putting no pressure on Israel and has totally abandoned the idea of creating a Palestinian state.

Recent events in Lebanon are also linked with efforts being made to bury the Palestinian problem and hit the Palestine resistance movement forces. Obligated, at the demand of the UN Security Council and under pressure from world public opinion, to withdraw its troops from the south of this country, Israel has at the same time taken steps to create a rightwing Christian "buffer" zone along its borders. [paragraph continues]

It was to precisely this end that Israel handed over key positions in southern Lebanon not to UN emergency forces but to rightwing Christian detachments that refuse to acknowledge Beirut's authority. There are grounds for believing--this is borne out by the events of the past few days--that the "buffer" zone is conceived as a nucleus toward which other regions of the country under rightist control will "gravitate." Ultimately it is a case of a plan to break Lebanon into pieces.

The Lebanese people are again faced with the real threat of the resumption of internal internecine warfare which both Israeli and U.S. politicians would like to use to "grind down" the Palestinians' armed forces, sharply weaken the PLO, and create in occupied territory a puppet "alternative" to this organization, which is the universally recognized leader of the Palestinian people. The Syrian troops, which are the backbone of the pan-Arab peace-keeping forces in Lebanon, have also become a target for provocative attacks by armed detachments of Lebanese reaction. Israel is also directly behind this.

Two courses have been clearly outlined with respect to the Near East events. The line aimed at dragging out and complicating the Near East conflict is opposed by another, truly peace-loving line reflecting the real interests of the peoples of this region. The Soviet Union and the other socialist community states consistently pursue a policy aimed at an overall settlement. And this means:

--The liquidation of all causes of the Near East conflict, the withdrawal of Israeli troops from all territories occupied in the 1967 war and the granting of the right to self-determination to the Palestinian people, right up to the creation of their own national state, and the safeguarding of the security of all states and peoples of the Near East;

--The solution of all problems as a package, and no extraction of individual issues from the overall context or the setting of individual problems of a settlement against others;

--The inclusion, in the process of the elaboration of peace conditions, of all those involved in the confrontation including, naturally, the PLO, and no separate deals with Israel by individual Arab states at the expense of other states or the Palestinian people.

After the October 1973 war, conditions were created conducive to an overall settlement in the interests of justice and peace in the Near East. The Geneva conference, designed to find a joint, coordinated political solution, began work, but the United States preferred shortly after this to travel a different path--U.S. Secretary of State H. Kissinger began to conduct "shuttle diplomacy" aimed at preparing partial separate agreements.

On coming to power the leaders of the present U.S. administration made several statements criticizing the "shuttle diplomacy" method and declaring the need for actions coordinated with the Soviet Union for the solution of the entire complex of questions of a Near East settlement. The United States' agreement to the 1 October 1977 joint Soviet-U.S. statement, which opened up a real path toward the resumption of the work of the Geneva conference, was a continuation of this trend. But following this, under pressure from militarist circles and the Zionist lobby, Washington has in fact abandoned the Geneva conference and inspired and supported separate Egyptian-Israeli talks, which have again deadlocked the process of a Near East settlement. A way out of this deadlock cannot be found without due consideration for the positions of all interested states. The more rapidly the United States understands this, the shorter the path will be toward just and stable peace in the Near East and the smaller the loss suffered by the entire international community as a result of the dangerous development of events in this region.

ISRAELI LINE HARDENS; EGYPT FOLLOWS CAPITULATORY POLICY

LD261525Y Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 23 Jul 78 p 3 LD

[From the international military-political review by V. Berezin and V. Vinogradov: "In a Separatist Impasse"]

[Text] The 2-day show staged in the medieval Leeds Castle in the English County of Kent is over. Despite the attempts by its participants--the foreign ministers of Egypt and Israel, as well as the U.S. secretary of state--to get things moving in the Egyptian-Israeli dialog, which has ground to a halt, everything remains as it was. The London newspapers were only able to note the two sides "came to a better understanding of the width of the disagreements separating them," which is to say, a very meager result for such a long-prepared meeting. But could it have been otherwise?

Even before the start, the players' scripts were clear, to use theatrical terminology. Cairo, having come practically to the limits of its capitulatory policy, proposed the latest "settlement plan," which completely bypassed the Palestinian question. Tel Aviv, having long since assessed As-Sadat's "peace initiative" and the subsequent talks as an admission of his weakness, did not intend to relax its tough position one iota.

As the progressive Egyptian newspaper AL-AHALI noted on the eve of the talks, they could not lead to positive results with the existing balance of forces, when one side adheres to an uncompromising line and the other is demonstrating its timidity and pliability. That is indeed what happened. At the face-to-face meeting the Egyptian and Israeli ministers introduced no changes into the script, and the sides separated, achieving nothing. Nonetheless the representative of the United States, which does not want to give up the idea of the conclusion of a separate deal bypassing general Arab interests, stated that the Leeds Castle meeting "laid the foundation for future talks."

So there are still more "talks" in the future, and it has been about 8 months since As-Sadat started to implement his "new" course, which turned out to be one of capitulation. Cairo has made one concession after another, but Tel Aviv has only toughened its demands. In particular, the other day Prime Minister M. Begin let it be clearly understood that, while he is head of the government, the West Bank of the Jordan with its Arab population will remain part of Israel. As for the fate of Sinai, that, according to him, is a matter for protracted talks.

While the Egyptian-Israeli contacts are marking time, Israel has not stopped adding to the heat of the atmosphere in the region. It has concentrated large contingents of troops on the border with Lebanon, threatening a new incursion into that Arab country. The aggressor's tanks and artillery, located on dominating heights, have in their sights nearly all of the south Lebanese border territory, shelling peaceful villages from time to time. Israeli patrols are constantly encroaching on Lebanese territory, carrying out indiscriminate searches and arrests among civilians in villages. Aircraft and ships violate Lebanon's air and sea borders daily. In whipping up the atmosphere in the south of the country, the Israeli authorities are relying on their agents in the ranks of right-wing Christians. Tel Aviv supplies them with large consignments of weapons, and there are Israeli officers in their military formations as advisers and instructors.

At the same time the Israeli rulers are continuing the intensive "assimilation" of the occupied territories. Militarized settlements of Israelis are springing up on Arab lands, primarily on the West Bank of the Jordan and in the Gaza Strip, like mushrooms after the rain. The total number of such settlements has topped 100. Nonetheless A. Sharon, Israeli minister for agriculture, head of the special committee for building settlements, has announced plans in accordance with which this number will be doubled in the next 12 years.

By all appearances, the present situation entirely suits the Israeli leaders. While As-Sadat is clutching at his capitulatory line and sowing discord in the Arab world, Tel Aviv is continuing its dangerous playing with fire, trying to perpetuate the occupation of Arab territories and impose its conditions for the resolution of the Near East problem. That is why people in the Arab world and elsewhere are resolutely condemning both the separatist course of Cairo circles and the aggressive, expansionist policy of the Tel Aviv leadership, since these actions have nothing in common with attempts to find ways of establishing a genuine peace in the Near East.

AS-SADAT'S PEACE INITIATIVE FAILS, LEBANESE PAPER SAYS

LD270640Y Moscow TASS in English 0618 GMT 27 Jul 78 LD

[Text] Beirut, July 26, TASS--Events of the recent months have shown that As-Sadat's "peace initiative" has failed completely, says the Lebanese newspaper ASH-SHA'B. In starting negotiations with Israel, As-Sadat staked on the United States, for the sake of which an anti-Soviet campaign was launched in Egypt. However, it turned out that the American Government did not intend to pressure Israel into honouring the United Nations resolutions.

Nevertheless, the newspaper stresses, As-Sadat continues stubbornly to seek ways to continue the separate negotiations even after the Israeli Government had finally rejected all the Egyptian proposals.

It is an open secret, the newspaper stresses, that Begin, Peres, Dayan and the other Israeli leaders are unanimous in their desire to remain in the occupied Arab lands and to secure a capitulation of the Arab nations.

U.S. WRITER ATTACKS ZIONISM, U.S. MIDEAST POLICY

LD261842Y Moscow TASS in English 1825 GMT 26 Jul 78 LD

[Text] Beirut, July 27, TASS--TASS correspondent Andrey Ostalskiy reports:

Zionism is the chief obstacle on the path to a lasting and just peace in the Middle East, only Zionism prevents the Arabs and the Jews from living together in peace and harmony in this area of the globe, said American political writer Alfred Lilienthal, chairman of the "Jews of the World Against Zionism" organization. He was speaking at a press conference held in the Lebanese capital today.

The so-called "peace plan," proposed by Israel's Prime Minister Begin, Lilienthal said, cannot be acceptable to any person who understands what peace and justice are. The basic interests of both Israel and the Arab countries, the interests of a truly lasting just peace in the Middle East, he pointed out, call not for replacement of particular leaders or parties which are in power in Israel but rather a radical change of the entire state structure and elimination of its Zionist essence. Any settlement in the Middle East must, first and foremost, be based on the provision for the Arab people of Palestine of the right to self-determination and creation of their own state.

On behalf of many Jews and Americans, Lilienthal expressed profound indignation over the policy pursued by the United States, which foots the bills of the Zionist state and, thus, bears direct responsibility for the Middle East crisis which endangers peace in the whole world. The joint Soviet-American statement on the Middle East, he said, provided a good basis for the search of the ways to achieve a settlement. However, the U.S. Government later on deviated from the principles laid down in the statement. Now the only chance of achieving peace is a return to the negotiations within the framework of the Geneva conference in which all the Arab states concerned as well as the Palestine Liberation Organization should be invited to participate. And for this purpose, the Egyptian President must admit the failure of his own "initiative." Here in Lebanon, continued Lilienthal, I have seen with my own eyes the countless hardships inflicted on the Lebanese people by the aggressive policy of Israel. The U.S. mass media would have us believe that what is happening in Lebanon is a conflict between Moslems and Christians, whereas, in reality, the struggle here is between Israel and its allies, on the one hand, and the progressive forces and the Palestine resistance movement, on the other.

MOSCOW RECEPTION HELD TO MARK EGYPTIAN ANNIVERSARY

LD261354 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World at 1530 GMT on 21 July carries a report on a reception held at Friendship House in Moscow on 20 July to mark the 26th anniversary of the 23 July revolution in Egypt. The report states that the reception was attended by members of the USSR-Egypt Friendship Society, representatives of the public, scientists, orientalists and Egyptian Charge d'Affaires Faruq Shilbayan.

The radio states that Yevgeniy Primakov, vice chairman of the board of the USSR-Egypt Friendship Society, addressed the meeting and stressed the importance of the revolution as a turning point for all developing countries and as a model to be followed by those who struggle against imperialism and its economic and political domination. He is reported as saying: "The revolution has shown how progress can be achieved through developing the public sector and strengthening friendly relations with the socialist community, the loyal friend of the Egyptian people."

The radio says that the next to speak was Anatoliy Agarishev, holder of the Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir prize and member of the editorial staff of KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA, who recalled Soviet support of Egypt during 1957 Suez events and subsequent Soviet aid, referring to the High Dam, the aluminium complex in Naj' Hammadi, the Soviet purchase of Egyptian cotton and the shipment of Soviet weapons. The report states that in conclusion he said: "The Soviet Union has been and still is loyal to its consistent, principled line toward Egypt and the friendly Egyptian people. This line has not stopped and will not stop, whatever transient circumstances it encounters. Soviet public opinion expresses full confidence that friendship and cooperation between the Soviet and Egyptian peoples will develop in the interest of our peoples and the triumph of justice, peace and progress in the world."

The radio then carries a recording of Faruq Shilbayah, who said that the struggle of the Egyptian people has produced results, thanks to their steadfastness and the support of the socialist community, led by the Soviet Union. "We pray to God to dispel the dark clouds from the sky of our relations so that we may soon resume cooperation on bases which are firmer, longer lasting and more generally useful to our people and the peoples of the Soviet Union within the framework of international coordination and cooperation," Shilbayah said.

ISRAELI SETTLERS CONSTRUCT HOUSES ON WEST BANK

LD261730Y Moscow TASS in English 1532 GMT 26 Jul 78 LD

[Text] Beirut, July 26, TASS--Israeli occupationists continue to "develop" the occupied Arab lands. The WAPA news agency reports that the construction of [words indistinct] houses for the Israeli settlers has been started on the West Bank of the Jordan in the vicinity of Nabulus, while a Zionist organisation "Gush Emunim" has taken a decision to build one more settlement nearby, in the region of Kfar Haris.

PDYR PARTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENUM OPENS 26 JULY

LD261728Y Moscow TASS in English 1554 GMT 26 Jul 78 LD

[Text] Aden, July 26, TASS--A plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the National Front of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, presided by 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, general secretary of the National Front's Central Committee, opened here today. The plenum will consider questions related to preparations for the convocation of a constituent congress of the vanguard party of a new type in October this year. The plenum will also discuss the task of party, state and public organisations of South Yemen in preparing the congress and will draw up measures for their practical implementation.

PDYR LEADER WARNS OF DANGERS OF CONSPIRACIES

LD261254Y Moscow TASS in English 1040 GMT 26 Jul 78 LD

[Text] Beirut, July 26, TASS--The policy of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen is directed at protecting the interests of the working people, strengthening the alliance with the forces of freedom, social progress, peace and socialism, said 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, general secretary of the Central Committee of the United Political Organization the National Front of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, speaking at an interview with the Lebanese AL-HURRIYAH weekly. We understand, he went on to say, that we are in for numerous difficulties, dangers of conspiracies and aggression. But we live in an epoch of remarkable victories scored by the forces of democracy, freedom and socialism, and our Democratic Republic belonging to the world revolutionary movement is not alone in its struggle. Together with us are all the anti-imperialist forces.

'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il pointed to the necessity of strengthening the alliance of all the patriotic and progressive forces of the Arab world in face of the intrigues of imperialism, Zionism and reaction in the Middle East. Therefore, it is necessary to work for the unity of the patriots and democrats in each Arab country. We achieved it in the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen within the framework of the national front.

We consider the creation of the "rejection front" among the progressive Arab states waging a struggle against capitulatory policies and betrayal as an important achievement in the cause of strengthening Arab unity. And we intend, he went on to say, to make a contribution to stepping up the activity of the front.

The general secretary of the National Front Central Committee touched upon issues of party construction in the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen. In our country, he said, the drafting of the rules and programme of the vanguard party has been completed, and we are engaged in preparations for its congress. Meetings to nominate delegates to the party congress are to be held nationwide soon.

TASS CITES UPI ON CIVIL DISTURBANCES IN IRAN

LD261732Y Moscow TASS in English 1609 GMT 26 Jul 78 LD

[Text] New York, July 26 TASS--According to a UPI correspondent official circles in Teheran reported violent anti-government disturbances in the city of Mashhad on July 22-23.

It is reported that during clashes between Moslems and security forces about 40 people died and about 100 were wounded. Details are not disclosed, but opposition Iranian circles stated that the police and troops used tanks to quell the disturbances.

SOVIET LEADERSHIP SENDS CABLE TO IRAQI PRESIDENT

LD220116Y Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 2100 GMT 21 Jul 78 LD

[Text] The Supreme Soviet Presidium and the USSR Council of Ministers sent a cable to Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr, chairman of the Revolutionary Command Council and president of the Iraqi Republic, greeting the friendly Iraqi people on the national day of the Iraqi Republic.

The cable said that the USSR attached great importance to our fruitful relations with Iraq. We consistently support the struggle of the Iraqi and other Arab peoples against the intrigues of imperialism and reaction and for social progress and the establishment of a just, real and lasting peace in the Middle East. In this struggle, the cohesion of all the anti-imperialist forces encompassed in the national patriotic and progressive front in Iraq should play, as experience has shown, an effective role.

In its cable the Soviet leadership expressed hope that Soviet-Iraqi relations which are based on the treaty of friendship and cooperation will continue to grow and develop in the interest of the peoples of both countries.

In his reply cable, President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr expressed deep gratitude for the warm greetings and his confidence that the friendly relations and cooperation between the Iraqi Republic and the USSR will forge forward along the road of development and strength in the interest of the peoples of the two friendly countries and of the consolidation of just peace and security throughout the world.

IRAQI INDUSTRIAL, TRADE FAIR OPENS IN MOSCOW

JN201750Y Baghdad INA in English 1640 GMT 20 Jul 78 JN

[Text] Moscow, 20 July--Iraq's first industrial and trade fair in the Soviet Union was opened here today.

Speaking at the opening ceremony, Soviet Minister of Foreign Trade Mr. Patolichev expressed the pleasure of the Soviet Government at the opening of the fair which he described as an indication of the development of relations between the two countries. The Soviet minister said the fair reflects the successes and achievements won by Iraq, adding that the Soviet people highly appreciate Iraq's success. The fair, he said, will contribute to developing trade relations and bringing the two countries closer to each other. The Soviet minister said the volume of trade between Iraq and the Soviet Union increased twelve-fold since [the] July 17 revolution in 1968 and last year it stood at nearly 300 million Iraqi dinars.

In his address, Iraqi Ambassador Murtada Sa'id 'Abd al-Baqi stressed that economic, technical and trade dealing plays an important role in strengthening friendship and cooperation between Iraq and the Soviet Union. The ambassador stressed that the Iraqi-Soviet friendship and cooperation treaty has drawn up the general framework for cooperation between the two countries.

The fair, which will remain open for 10 days, shows samples of various Iraqi products and charts of Iraqi projects.

Present at the ceremony were a number of Soviet officials, heads of some Arab and foreign diplomatic missions and commercial attaches at foreign embassies here.

PROKOFYEV LAUDS USSR-IRAQ TIES AT FRIENDSHIP DAYS CEREMONY

LD252026Y Moscow TASS in English 1824 GMT 25 Jul 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, July 29, TASS--Soviet-Iraqi friendship days were held in the Soviet Union with great success. The program included soirees, meetings, held in Moscow, Volgograd, Ordzhonikidze and other cities, and exhibitions devoted to the friendly Iraqi people. Soviet people rejoice in the [word indistinct] achieved by the Iraqi people after the revolution, said Mikhail Prokofyev, minister of the USSR, chairman of the Soviet-Iraqi Friendship Society. People in the Soviet Union attach great importance to relations with Iraq, relations which have been very fruitful, he stressed. The treaty of friendship and cooperation, which was concluded between the USSR and Iraq six years ago, has been a good basis for the development of [word indistinct] ties between the two countries. The treaty meets the basic interests of the peoples of the Soviet Union and Iraq and is an important contribution to the development of Soviet-Arab cooperation, in general, and to the common struggle against machinations by imperialism, colonialism and reaction. This was said by speakers at the meetings held in the Soviet Union during the friendship days. The USSR has been firmly and consistently supporting the struggle of the Arab peoples for national liberation and for stronger independence, for establishing a just and lasting peace in the Middle East. Friendly ties with Iraq will be further strengthened. This is evidenced by the Soviet-Iraqi friendship days.

BRIEFS

ARAB WOMEN'S CONFERENCE--The ninth conference of the pan-Arab Women's Federation is taking place in Tripoli. Representatives of the women's movement in Arab countries are taking part. The guests include delegations of women's organizations from the socialist countries, including the Soviet Union. [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0500 GMT 24 Jul 78 LD]

III. 27 Jul 78

U S S R I N T E R N A T I O N A L A F F A I R S
SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

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BRITISH PRESS REPORTS PLANNED NATO INCURSION INTO RHODESIA

LD261846Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 26 Jul 78 LD

[Text] NATO countries are planning to conduct an incursion in Rhodesia similar to their recent operation in Zaire's Shaba Province. This was reported by the British newspaper THE DAILY MAIL, citing an intelligence report and official evidence. As in Zaire, the pretext of saving the white population will be used. A paratrooper landing and the transfer of troops from Britain and other NATO countries is envisaged, along with broad cooperation, including military, with the racist Pretoria regime. The NATO military interference being prepared in southern Africa with the aim of saving their henchmen from collapse by force represents a serious threat to international peace.

TANZANIAN COMMERCE OFFICIAL LAUDS TRADE TIES WITH USSR

LD261910Y Moscow TASS in English 1755 GMT 26 Jul 78 LD

[Text] Dar es Salaam, July 26, TASS--Development of trade with the countries of the socialist community fully meets the interests of Tanzania, it was stressed by C. Mwalongo, president of the National Chamber of Commerce of Dar es Salaam, upon his return from the Soviet Union, where he stayed at the invitation of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the USSR.

During our trip to the USSR, he said, we saw for ourselves that there are the broadest possibilities for deepening commercial relations between Tanzania and the Soviet Union. We were most deeply impressed by the high level of technical development achieved by the Soviet Union. We could buy in the Soviet Union most profitably many goods, particularly production of the machine-building industry. The attention of the delegation, C. Mwalongo said, was particularly attracted by modern Soviet farm machinery.

C. Mwalongo noted that Soviet goods were sold at cheaper prices than similar products in the Western markets. Furthermore, he noted, delivery of goods from the USSR will be cheaper than from the West.

REPORT ON SOVIET MILITARY BUILDUP IN SEYCHELLES CRITICIZED

LD261502Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1419 GMT 26 Jul 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, 26 July--TASS commentator Sergey Bulantsev writes:

If anyone doubts the usefulness of studying geography, let him read today's DAILY TELEGRAPH. Its editors are obviously extremely weak in geographic knowledge. They failed to spot a vexing error--they confused the Seychelle Islands in the Indian Ocean with Diego Garcia. This purely geographical incident caused a political mistake, and as a result, the paper asserts that the Soviet Union allegedly intends to build a naval base on the Seychelles.

The geographical mistake is so obvious that the editors will not even have to apologise to the readers it has deluded. The DAILY TELEGRAPH itself has repeatedly written that the United States has built and is now modernizing a military base on British-owned Diego Garcia Island. Therefore, the DAILY TELEGRAPH's anti-Soviet slip-up does not arouse particular censure: The informed British readers will read "Diego Garcia" and "United States" where the paper's editors--from geographical weakness or evil intentions--have written "Seychelles" and "USSR."

PRC-JAPAN TREATY WOULD DAMAGE JAPAN-USSR, WORLD RELATIONS

LD261415Y Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Jul 78 p 3 LD

[Article by Candidate of Historical Sciences S. Modenov: "Under Pressure From Peking"]

[Text] Numerous delegations from Japan and China have recently exchanged visits and held talks on developing political, economic and trade relations. The fact that the number of Japanese visitors appreciably exceeds the number of Chinese visitors attracts attention here. Peking is actively inviting Japanese Government representatives, political party leaders, important businessmen, military officials and retired generals and welcoming them with open arms.

As is known, a joint statement on the establishment of diplomatic relations was signed in September 1972. It particularly noted that "normalization of relations between China and Japan is not aimed against third countries." Both sides pledged not to strive for hegemony in the Asia and Pacific region and also "to oppose the efforts of any other country or group of countries to establish such hegemony."

However, all these declarations proved to be empty phrases on Peking's part. Today, it is no secret that Chinese diplomacy is strenuously attempting to draw Japan closer to its own anti-Soviet policy and transform it into an industrial and technological base to fulfill its hegemonist aspirations both within Asia and throughout the world. In order to achieve these ends, the PRC leadership proposed to Japan in 1975 that talks be held on concluding a bilateral "peace and friendship treaty".

The Japanese Government consented to this proposal, but the talks were stalemated when Peking delivered an ultimatum by demanding that a provision on opposing the so-called "hegemony" of a third country be included in the pact. Moreover, Peking is making no attempt to conceal the anti-Soviet thrust of this provision, which, if included in the pact, would obviously transcend bilateral relations and become an instrument of confrontation with other countries. The "hegemony" provision is aimed against the Soviet Union. This attitude is even stipulated in the CCP charter revised recently at the 11th CCP Congress.

Despite Peking's obvious desire to use the treaty to tie Japan to its anti-Soviet policy bandwagon, certain Japanese circles are actively advocating that it be signed as soon as possible. These circles are primarily pro-Peking groups in the ruling Liberal Democratic Party and in some parliamentary opposition parties. For example, certain representatives of the Japanese Socialist Party and the Komeito Party, which are influenced by Maoist ideology or a wish to make expedient political contacts with Peking, are displaying unseemly zeal.

Some businessmen, who apparently seek larger profits from trade with China, also favor the Japanese-Chinese talks. Taking into account China's intention to rapidly equip its army with the most modern weapons, they are also hoping to make substantial profits in the military business. For this reason, they are currently demonstrating a "friendly attitude" toward Peking's importunings.

The persistent Chinese and domestic pressure on Tokyo has had an effect. The Japanese Government recently officially announced its decision to resume talks with Peking on concluding a "peace and friendship treaty."

It is completely understandable that such developments have alarmed the Japanese public. The Japanese are well aware that concluding a treaty incorporating an article on hegemonism would inflict substantial damage on Japanese-Soviet relations. The decision to resume talks is increasingly alarming opponents of Japan's involvement in an anti-Soviet political alliance. They include many Liberal Democratic Party parliamentary deputies. More than 50 conservative parliamentarians have recommended that the government display more "sense" and that it would be intolerable to revise Japan's foreign policy. The "Society for the Study of Asian Problems," to which about 30 parliamentary deputies belong, has also attacked the resumption of the Japanese-Chinese talks. As was noted in a society resolution, "the conclusion of a Japanese-Chinese peace and friendship treaty would do more harm than good to Japanese state interests, primarily the interests of its national security."

This cautious approach toward Japanese-Chinese relations has also been prompted by events near the Senkaku Islands, regarded by Tokyo as Japanese territory. The appearance of a huge armed Chinese "fishing fleet" in that region triggered justified concern in many Japanese political and public circles. There were inevitable memories of the seizure of the Paracel Islands in the South China Sea by Chinese Armed Forces in January 1974, and the PRC's numerous claims on neighboring countries, including the USSR and Mongolia. The Tokyo press quoted Mao Tse-tung's statement of 28 June 1958: "Today, the Pacific is in reality not so peaceful. In the future, when it passes under our control, it can be regarded as peaceful."

Japanese newspapers have scrupulously calculated that in the past 20 years the number of border disputes, clashes and armed conflicts provoked by Peking on Chinese borders exceeds the number of such incidents throughout the rest of the world.

In light of the conflict around the Senkaku Island initiated by Peking, it has become extremely clear to many Japanese that the Chinese leadership has not abandoned its expansionist plans at all. The Maoists' actions near the Senkaku Islands, the newspaper AKAHATA noted, "must be assessed as 'hegemonism' aimed at undermining Japanese sovereignty and threatening its territorial integrity." By attempting to foist on Japan a treaty incorporating an article on "hegemonism," a statement from the "Society for the Study of Asian Problems" stressed, Peking has openly demonstrated its own hegemonist ambitions which form the basis of its foreign policy. Y. Nakasone, chairman of the Liberal Democratic Party General Affairs Council, K. Yasui, chairman of the House of Councillors, and other prominent Japanese politicians have called on the government to adopt a determined attitude and oppose any territorial claims made by Peking. They have sharply criticized those LDP forces that seek the speediest conclusion of a treaty with China.

The Soviet Union has repeatedly drawn the Japanese leaders' attention to the fact that Peking's actions in connection with the Japanese-Chinese treaty reflect its intention to draw Japan into the orbit of its policy, which contradicts the growing trend toward detente and the consolidation of peace in Asia and throughout the world. Whether Japan wishes this or not, the conclusion of a treaty with the PRC on Peking's terms could dangerously complicate its relations with third states. Naturally, it is up to the Japanese side to select its own partners in the world arena. However, it cannot be ignored, as even the Japanese press notes, that the conclusion of a treaty with the PRC containing a provision aimed against the USSR would have an adverse effect on Soviet-Japanese relations.

KAPITONOV ADDRESSES ESTONIAN CP CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENUM

LD262002Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 26 Jul 78 LD

[Text] The Estonian Communist Party Central Committee plenum today discussed the results of the CPSU Central Committee July 1978 Plenum and the tasks of the republican party organization proceeding from the plenum decisions and the report made by Comrade Brezhnev. A report was delivered by Kebin, first secretary of the Estonian CP Central Committee. The plenum has unanimously and entirely approved the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee July Plenum and the provisions and conclusions contained in Leonid Ilich Brezhnev's report and adopted them for strict guidance and fulfillment.

Particular attention was devoted to the development of animal husbandry--the main branch of the republic's agriculture. While noting the successes that have been achieved the plenum participants pointed out that the rate of development of public [obshchestvennyy] animal husbandry could be greater. The experience of many farms and foremost production workers testifies to the existence of large reserves. The well-known Viljandi experiment was carried out with the aim of raising work efficiency of the rayon's agroindustrial complex. It is intended to bring the average milk yields per cow to 4,000-4,200 kg by 1985, as well as to raise the intensity of cattle fattening.

The plenum was addressed by Kapitonov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. The decision that has been adopted outlines specific measures aimed at successfully fulfilling the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee July Plenum and the tasks set forth in Comrade Brezhnev's report.

The Estonian CP Central Committee plenum examined organizational issues. The plenum has relieved Comrade Kebin of his duties as first secretary of the Estonian CP Central Committee in connection with his election to the post of chairman of the Estonian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. Comrade Vaino has been elected first secretary of the Estonian Communist Party Central Committee. Prior to this he was secretary of the Estonian Communist Party Central Committee.

Vaino New Estonian Party Head

LD261650Y Moscow TASS in English 1633 GMT 26 Jul 78 LD

[Text] Tallinn, July 26, TASS--Karl Vaino, was elected first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Estonia at a plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of that republic today. Karl Vaino, born in 1923, graduated from the Electro-mechanical Institute and the higher party school under the CPSU Central Committee. He was a wealth of experience of work in industry and party bodies. In the last 18 years he was secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Estonia.

Johannes Kebin was elected today president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of Estonia at a session of the supreme legislative body of the republic. In the past 28 years he was first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Estonia (former President of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of Estonia Artur Vader died in May). Johannes Kebin began his career as a rank-and-file worker. He was a teacher at an institute, director of the Institute of the Party's History at the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Estonia, secretary of the party's Central Committee. Johannes Kebin 72, is member of the CPSU Central Committee. He is Hero of Socialist Labour, the honorary title of the USSR.

SHEVARNADZE SPEAKS AT GEORGIAN PARTY-ECONOMIC AKTIV

LD281304Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 26 July 78 LD

[Text] A meeting of the Georgian Party-Economic Aktiv held in Tbilisi today discussed the results of fulfilling the tasks of the first half of the 10th 5-Year Plan and tasks in the successful fulfillment of the 5-year plan.

A report was delivered by Pataridze, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Georgian SSR. In 2.5 years Georgia has produced above-plan industrial output worth R474 million, considerably more than provided for in socialist pledges. The 5-year plan is being successfully fulfilled by the main indicators. In the power, chemical and certain other industries the rate of increase in production lags behind the appointed figures. Faults in capital construction were pointed out. The meeting analyzed the results of work in agriculture with a new, higher degree of exactingness in the light of the CPSU Central Committee July 1978 Plenum.

A speech was made at the meeting by Shevardnadze, first secretary of the Georgian CP Central Committee.

BRIEFS

GOSPLAN OFFICIAL PERVUKHIN DIES--Mikhail Georgiyevich Pervukhin, Collegium member and head of a department of the USSR Gosplan, died suddenly at the age of 73 on 22 July. The obituary says that Pervukhin was a prominent figure in the field of construction and planning of the socialist economy. Mikhail Georgiyevich began as an ordinary engineer and became chief of Glavenergonarkomtyazhprom. In 1938 he was appointed deputy people's commissar, and then people's commissar for electric powerplans and the electrical industry. In subsequent years he worked as people's commissar and then minister of chemical industry and deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers. The party and government valued his services highly. Pervukhin was awarded the title of Hero of Socialist Labor, five Orders of Lenin, the Order of the October Revolution, the Order of the Labor Red Banner, and many medals. The fond memory of Mikhail Georgiyevich Pervukhin, a loyal son of the Communist Party and the Soviet people, will always remain in the hearts of those who knew him. [Text] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 24 Jul 78 LD]

NEW GAS DEPOSITS CONFIRMED--Moscow--Work has begun to develop a gas extracting region on the Yamal Peninsula. Preliminary drilling has been carried out and Soviet specialists predict that despite all the difficulties associated with the natural conditions of the region, industrial gas will be extracted from the Yamal deposits in this 5-year plan. Prospecting work so far has confirmed specialists' theories that the chain of gas deposits stretches from the central regions of Western Siberia and continues north. Thus, the farthest northern Yamal deposit--the Tambeyskoye--lies on the 72d parallel. The USSR Ministry of the Gas Industry told TASS that in spite of natural and climatic difficulties, the new deposits would be working to full capacity in the 1980s. This will considerably increase gas extraction in West Siberia, which is transported to the Urals, the Volga area and central regions of European USSR. [Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1321 GMT 26 Jul 78 LD]

11 UNION REPUBLICS ENGAGED IN HARVESTING CAMPAIGN

LD261710Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1445 GMT 26 Jul 78 LD

[Summary] A total of 11 union republics are engaged in the harvesting campaign. Turkmen and Uzbek SSRs have almost completed the harvesting of early grain crops. The Kirgiz and Tadzhik SSRs; Krymskaya, Mikolayevskaya, Khersonskaya, Dzhambulskaya, Taldy-Kurganskaya and Chirkentskaya oblasts are conducting the harvesting and threshing of bread grain more rapidly than last year.

USSR CSA REPORTS ON PROGRESS OF HARVESTING WORK

LD261707Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1445 GMT 26 Jul 78 LD

[Text] According to the USSR Central Statistical Administration report on 24 July, grain and pulse crops, excluding corn, have been harvested in the country's kolkhoz and sovkhozes on 18.6 million hectares. Almost 2/3 of the area have been threshed.

According to the USSR Ministry of Agriculture, farmers of five RSFSR oblasts, four Ukrainian oblasts, and one Kazakh oblast have embarked on the harvesting and threshing of cereals in the past week.

Rain is complicating the work of machine operators. Therefore, local machinery is being used skillfully for harvesting flattened bread grain.

The tactics of the present harvesting campaign are based on the principle of high labor organization and on the greater skill of machine operators. Harvesting transportation complexes are in operation everywhere. All this yields good results.

Stavropol farmers are selling the 2d million tons of grain to the state. Don and Kuban farmers are selling their 3d million tons of grain.

The harvest front is also expanding on corn plantations. This crop is being harvested for grain by the farms of the Uzbek SSR and the Tadzhik SSR.

The harvesting of potatoes is continuing. Over 50,000 tons of tubers have been delivered to the all-union fund.

The harvesting of tea leaves, fruit and berries is being conducted successfully in southern areas.

[Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1900 GMT on 26 July also mentions the CSA report, noting that "Belorussia has joined in the harvesting and work is now already being carried out in 12 union republics. The farms of the southern Ukraine and the North Caucasus are now engaged in mass sales of grain to the state.

["Two million tons of grain have already been delivered to the elevators in both the Kuban and Rostovskaya oblasts. Harvesting work is now under way in the mid-Volga valley area and in the southern part of the Central-Chernozem Zone. The first reaping machines have gone into the fields in Sumskaya Oblast in the Ukraine. At the present time, harvesting is shifting into the oblasts where it will have to be carried out in more complex conditions. Prolonged rains and strong winds have caused the flattening of grains in particularly large areas. The farms are preparing to carry out the harvesting in bad weather conditions too. The capacities of graindriers are being increased, open arenas for the short-term storing of grain are being erected, and the experience of front ranking machine operators with techniques for work in complex weather conditions is being generalized and disseminated everywhere."]

RADIO REPORTS AGRICULTURAL PROGRESS FOR 26 JULY

LD270420 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 0500 GMT on 26 July reports that in the last 24 hours 150,000 hectares of grain have been cut and threshed in Kazakhstan. In Orenburgskaya Oblast, the harvesting of rye and barley has begun in the central zones. In Zaporozhskaya Oblast half of the grain has been harvested--705,000 tons. Harvesting has begun in Brestskaya and Gomelskaya oblasts, while Dagestan Rayon has completed harvesting.

At 1600 GMT the radio informs its listeners that corn harvesting has begun in the southern part of Uzbekistan. Sowings of this crop occupy 174,000 hectares in the republic. The same broadcast reports that Kuban has completed grain harvesting on nearly 2 million hectares.

'BUMPER' GRAIN HARVEST REPORTED IN KUBAN

LD261944Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1700 GMT 26 Jul 78 LD

[Summary] Reaping has been completed in the Kuban. Grain crops have been harvested from an area of almost 2 million hectares. Many farms cut and threshed all their cereal crops in 7-9 days. A bumper harvest has been grown and gathered. An average yield of over 37 quintals of grain per hectare has been obtained in Krasnodarskiy Kray as a whole, while entire rural rayons have obtained a yield of over 40 quintals per hectare. The elevators and delivery centers are receiving grain constantly due to the one-third of a million tons gathered. Dozens of farms have set about marketing grain, thereby exceeding plans.

NEW GRAIN HARVESTER TO BE PUT INTO PRODUCTION

LD262140Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 26 Jul 78 LD

[Summary] Rosselmash workers decided at a meeting of the works aktiv today to put the new SK6.5 grain harvester into production a year ahead of schedule. This new model of the Niva combine will be considerably more powerful than the current one.

UZBEKISTAN SUPREME SOVIET VIEWS ANIMAL HUSBANDRY PROBLEMS

LD261954Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 26 Jul 78 LD

[Text] A session of the Uzbekistan Supreme Soviet was held in Tashkent today. It discussed the problems of the republic's animal husbandry in all respects.

A report was delivered by Khudayberdiyev, chairman of the republican Council of Ministers. The rapporteur and speakers in the debate devoted particular attention to the unsolved problems and shortcomings that still exist in animal husbandry and outlined measures for further developments in this important branch of agriculture. The session unanimously confirmed the forestry code of Uzbekistan. The activity of a number of standing commissions was discussed.

KURGANSKIY OBKOM EXAMINES FAILURE TO BOOST GRAIN YIELD

LD261013Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Jul 78 Morning Edition p 2 LD

[Own correspondent G. Shcherbina report: "A High Yield From Every Hectare"]

[Excerpts] Businesslike, principled discussion of ways to further develop the agriculture of the trans-Urals region took place at a Kurganskiy Obkom plenum. The participants wholeheartedly approved the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee July (1978) Plenum and Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's report "On the Further Development of the USSR's Agriculture."

As the speaker [Obkom First Secretary F.K. Knyazev] and those who spoke in the debate stressed, the development of the oblast's agriculture is being implemented on the basis of a comprehensive program. Labor productivity has risen and the production of farming and livestock-raising has increased on this basis. Thus the grain harvest has increased 35 percent, average annual meat production has increased 50 percent, egg production 80 percent, milk production 42 percent and wool production 28 percent compared to the Seventh 5-Year Plan.

However, these increases still do not meet the rapidly growing needs. The speaker and those who spoke in the debate displayed an attitude of great responsibility toward the criticisms voiced by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev regarding Kurganskaya Oblast at the CPSU Central Committee July Plenum. Full use is not being made of the reserves for increasing production of grain, meat and milk and for reducing their prime cost. In the oblast there are many kolkhozes and sovkhozes making poor use of land, equipment and fertilizer.

For a number of years the agricultural crop yield in the oblast has essentially been static. In the last 7 years an average of 13.6 quintals of grain per hectare has been obtained--only 2 quintals more than before 1965. The increase is also insignificant in the current 5-year plan. From the plenum rostrum Hero of Socialist Labor A.I. Sochnev, chairman of the Order of Lenin Rossiya Kolkhoz in Shatrovskiy Rayon, shared his experience of how to overcome the stagnation which has emerged. The working people of this farm do not hope for favors from nature. Thanks to good soil preparation, constant concern for 1st-class seeds, quality sowing and timely harvesting without losses, they have consistently obtained an average of 20-22 quintals per hectare for many years now.

BRIEFS

ALL-UNION SUGAR BEET CONFERENCE--An all union conference on sugar beet seed breeding ended in Kursk today. The beet harvest and improvement of its quality depend to a large extent on the resolution of this problem. During the 5-year plan, the sugar beet production in the RSFSR is to increase by 56 percent. Taking part in the conference were Mesyats, USSR minister of agriculture; Kapustyan, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Agriculture Department; and secretaries of obkoms and kraykoms. [Text]
[Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 26 Jul 78 LD]

TASS REPORTS 26 JULY WORKDAY OF SOYUZ-29 COSMONAUTS

LD261630Y Moscow TASS in English 1605 GMT 26 Jul 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, July 26 TASS--A TASS correspondent reports from the Flight Control Centre:

The sixth week of the orbital flight of the Cosmonauts Vladimir Kovalenck and Aleksandr Ivanchenkov is drawing to a close. The work day of the team of the orbital scientific research complex Salyut-6-Soyuz-29-Progress-2 began at eight o'clock in the morning and will last till twenty three hours Moscow time.

Today the cosmonauts are busy performing the control tests of individual systems and units on board, preparing the equipment for the experiments planned and continue their visual observation of the earth's surface and of the world ocean.

Another regular space technology experiment with the semiconductor materials with the "crystal" plant has been completed. The experiment aimed at obtaining volumetric crystals from a gaseous phase. The shaping of the crystals' structure proceeded without any contact with the walls of the ampoules. The maximal heating temperature of the original substance reached 1,100 degrees Centigrade.

According to the medical control and the team's data, Vladimir Kovalenck and Aleksandr Ivanchenkov feel quite well. The pulse frequency of the flight commander is 68 and that of the flight engineer is 65 strokes per minute. The arterial blood pressure is respectively 120 to 70 and 125 to 70 millimetres.

The flight programme of the orbital complex is being successfully implemented.

COSMOS 1,027 LAUNCHED; APPARATUSES FUNCTIONING SMOOTHLY

LD271302Y Moscow TASS in English 1247 GMT 27 Jul 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, July 27, TASS--An earth satellite, Cosmos-1027, was launched in the Soviet Union today to continue the exploration of outer space.

The initial period of revolution is 104.8 minutes, maximum distance from the earth's surface--1,015 kilometers, minimum distance--979 kilometers, orbit angle--82.9 degrees.

The apparatuses on board the Sputnik function smoothly.

BRIEFS

ATLANTIC RESEARCH SHIP--The scientific research ship Professor Vize has returned to Leningrad after a voyage of over 100 days. Professor (Ivanov-Kholodnyy), head and scientific leader of the expedition, notes that the work consisted of launching rockets to investigate the upper strata of the earth's atmosphere and of carrying out accompanying measurements of radio emissions from the sun, the ionosphere and the atmosphere's optical characteristics. Several rockets were launched at various latitudes in the Atlantic Ocean under the first program. The second program, an optical one, also included launching eight rockets. The third program was the Soviet-American experiment program, under which the ship was due to launch six Soviet rockets and four U.S. ones. Such rocket launches are normally carried out from land bases, but the geophysical nature of the program's work meant that it embraced large areas of the earth's surface, and so ships carrying equipment for rocket launching were best suited for the job. Ships are more suitable for carrying out research on a latitudinal section basis and at specific points. Only the USSR has such ships equipped for carrying out rocket experiments. The preliminary evaluation of the joint work with the Americans is that the experiment was successful. [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1430 GMT 16 Jul 78 LD]

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